



## HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

### DAMS FILE COLLECTION

#### BOOK D12

## TOWN OF LUDLOW, MASSACHUSETTS



*Donald E. Ashe, Register  
Hampden County Registry of Deeds,  
a Division of the Office of  
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth*

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1941 Ludlow

Dam located on Higher Brook.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Ackerman Dam - Lower
Name	Ackerman, Josephine
Name	Zelinski, John
Name	Ackerman, Frank
Water	Higher Brook



Mrs. Frank W. Ackerman  
RFD #1  
Ludlow, Mass.

August 27, 1941

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby notified that your lower dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"On this dam some repairs are needed on the end of the concrete channel spillway, where the concrete has broken off; also, the filled-in washout, caused by the hurricane flood of Sept. 1938, should be shaped up in swale fashion with the bottom of the swale lower than the top of the dam. The purpose of the swale is to carry the water around the end of the dam in high flood flow, instead of allowing it to go over the top of the structure and destroy it."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Ackerman Jan #1  
Ludlow

Josephine Ackerman  
Ludlow, Mass.  
R F D #1 -

September 4, 1941.

Commissioners -  
Mr. Thos. J. Costello, Chairman,  
Charles, M. Bray,  
Edward J. Stapleton,  
County of Hampden,  
Springfield, Massachusetts.

*Copy of  
this letter  
sent to  
Mr. Fitch on 9/11/41*

Dear Sirs:                      Re: Repairs on Dam on Higher Brook  
   Ludlow, Massachusetts -

In response to your letter of August 27, pertaining to repairs on the above mentioned dam. I want to tell you that I have begged and urged and fought, yes, fought - with Mr. John Zeilinski, to have this dam repaired, but to absolutely no avail.

Mr. John Zeilinski has a long term lease on this property, which states he is responsible for repairs. I cannot touch it without his consent, and he won't do anything about it nor will he release his lease so that I can do something about it.

I am a widow. My husband was killed two and a half years ago; I have three minor children in school and am working to support them. I want to do what is right about the dam. I want Mr. Zeilinski to either repair the dam IMMEDIATELY or release his claim on it. Can you help me do it?

I wrote to ~~him~~ immediately - the following letter -

August 29, 1941

Dear Mr. Zeilinski:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I received this morning from the County Commissioners of Hampden County, telling of the condition of the dam. According to the lease which is still in effect, YOU are responsible for the maintenance and repairing of this dam, and can be held by law to do so.

Please take care of this matter at once. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Commissioners to show that you have been informed properly.

Very truly yours, (Signed) Josephine Ackerman.)"

Please let me know if you can help me to get Zeilinski to repair this dam which he neglected to do for so long, and won't do at my request? Tell me what to do, please. And thank you so very much, because I need advice and am worrying about this "Dam" business.

Very truly yours,

*Josephine Ackerman*

Mr. John Zielinski's lease is on record -

It is made out to John and Edna Zielinski, of  
Ludlow, Mass.

However, Zeilinski is living with his mother-in-law in  
Granby, Mass. at the present time.

His address is

John Zeilinski,  
5 Taylor Street  
Granby, Mass.

I hope you can help me get this straightened out.  
He called me a dumb woman when I told him I thought  
the dam needed repairing. Said it was a spring and  
not a leak - also when he put that cement in it was  
November and it FROZE overnight and he put too much  
sand in proportion to the cement used and I told him  
so and he told me to "Mind my own business" he had  
a lease on it, and would do as he pleased and that it  
was safe. The cement crumbled within a week! *I wouldn't*  
*tell him anything - nor can anyone else! He knows it all.*

*J. Ackerman -*



September 10, 1941

*Copy of this  
letter sent to  
Mr. Tighe on  
9/11/41*

Mrs. Josephine Ackerman,  
R F D #1,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Ackerman:

Your letter of September 4th in regard to the unsafe condition of your dam on Higher Brock, has been received.

In reply we wish to state that it has been called to the Commissioners' attention by our Engineer, who inspects the dams, that it is in a very dangerous condition. If it is not repaired within a reasonable length of time, we will be forced to let the water out and take down the dam, in accordance with the jurisdiction we have over dams. If there is any legal question with Mr. Zeilinski, would suggest that you take it up with an attorney who will advise what is the correct method to use to force Mr. Zeilinski to repair the dam if you believe he is responsible.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

C/N

Ludlow, Massachusetts  
September 15, 1941

County of Hampden,  
Springfield, Massachusetts -

Dear Commissioners:      Re: Higher Brook Dam  
Ackerman Property

This morning I am turning this matter over to Mr. John Granfield, my attorney, for immediate attention. I am sure Mr. Granfield will take care of this matter or either making Mr. Zeilinski care and repair for that dam, or relinquish his lease so that I could do it.

Please do not do anything to my dam until he has a chance to do something. The watergate is pulled up so that there is only about 1 foot of water in the pond or two feet in it's deepest part, so there is no danger of flooding. I shall keep the gate up and the pond will not fill up more than two feet high at any time unless we have terrible rains for over a long period.

I will inform you what action Zeilinski will take.

Very sincerely yours,

*Josephine Ackerman*

Copy of this letter sent to County  
Engineer James L. Tighe.

September 27, 1950

Mrs. F. Ackerman  
Belchertown Road  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dams located in Ludlow have been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"There is a concentrated leak in the vicinity of the base of the lower dam at the old mill wall corner. This leak should be investigated and stopped, if found dangerous. Two large elm trees growing in the dam fill should be removed.

The upper dam should be cleaned of all brush."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Ackerman Dam - Upper

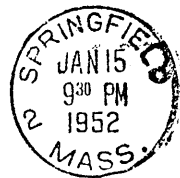


1941 Ludlow

Located on property near Belchertown Road.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Ackerman Dam - Upper
Name	Ackerman, Josephine
Name	Ackerman, Frank
Streets	Belchertown Road

Mrs. Frank Ackerman  
Ludlow  
Mass



County Commissioners

County of Hampden

37 Elm St.

Springfield, Mass.

W. Carter

December 19, 1951

Mrs. Frank Ackerman  
Belchertown Road  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your upper dam located near your home in Ludlow has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The wooden spillway has deteriorated and the earthfill of the dam shows signs of being washed out on the easterly side of the spillway. The spillway must be repaired to prevent further damage to the earthfill of the dam. Prior to the heavy Spring runoff, the portion now washed out should be refilled and stabilized with heavy rip rap."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Received in Hampden County Commissioners' Office  
on January 16, 1952.

County of Hampden,  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear County Commissioners:

Re: damaged dam on my land.

I have received your letter telling me about the upper dam. I am quite distressed about this dam because I don't know what to do.

My only son left to me was drafted last year into the army. I tried to keep him out as he and his brothers had served in world war 2, but it did no good, the army took him just the same.

This has left me without man power here for many years and our place is really going down on this account. My youngest son, the only one left to me, still has another year to serve in the armed forces.

Is there any help for such as me? I understand the seriousness of the situation and it should be repaired before the spring rains. I do not have any money to hire such work done. Being a world war 1 widow and receiving the pension of \$42 a month does not give me any money to pay for such repairs.

I wish there was such help. I thought I would let you know of our situation here. I tried to have my youngest son, my sole support now, released from the army but this cannot be done now.

I am sorry about this dam and earnest wish there was something I could do before it is ruined. I do worry about it a lot.

very sincerely yours,

*Mrs. Josephine Ackerson*  
*Ludlow*  
*Mass.*

*Mrs. (Frank)*

January 17, 1952

George H. McDonnell,  
County Hydraulic Engineer,  
189 High Street,  
Holyoke, Mass.

Dear Mr. McDonnell:

We enclose herewith copy of a  
letter from Mrs. Josephine Ackerman of Ludlow, Mass.

Will you please contact her at  
your convenience and advise her if possible as to the  
estimated expense of the repairs.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

WHS/N  
Encl.

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. 5525

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

February 19, 1952

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Attention: William F. Stapleton,  
Chairman

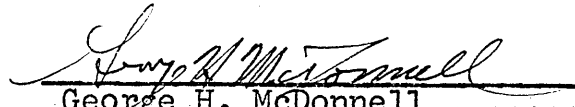
Gentlemen:

In reference to your letter of January 17, 1952, pertaining to a letter written by Mrs. Josephine Ackerman of Ludlow, requesting assistance in repairing a dam located on her property, the undersigned has met with Mrs. Ackerman and reviewed with her the problem of repairing the dam.

The work to be done mainly consists of repairing a wooden, overflow flume and replacing a section of the earth dam now partially eroded.

On the day of my visit, Mrs. Ackerman agreed to have her son contact me when he returns home on leave from the Army and, at that time, I will show Mr. Ackerman the work to be done and how it can best and most economically be accomplished. It is expected that he will be home shortly and that the work can be completed within a reasonable time. Mrs. Ackerman is very much satisfied with this arrangement.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

*Ackerman Dam*  
*Ludlow*



December 17, 1952

Mrs. Frank Ackerman  
Belchertown Road  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your upper dam located near your house in Ludlow has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The deteriorated wooden spillway flume has not been repaired as agreed by the owner. Repairs must be made to prevent further loss of the earth and stone fill of the dam. A schedule for the repairs as previously outlined should be presented and carried out in 1953 at the latest."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

*Ackerman Upper Dam*  
*Ludlow*

December 16, 1953

Mrs. Frank Ackerman  
Belchertown Road  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your upper dam located near your house in Ludlow has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The deteriorated wood spillway flume has not been repaired. There has been some loss of stone work and earth in this area of the spillway. Necessary maintenance and repairs to the overflow section should be provided for and if a wooden spillway flume is not desirable in making the repairs, the use of local boulders and stones would be satisfactory, provided the flow over the dam could be restricted within a stone paved spillway area."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Alden Pond Dam



1933 Ludlow

Dam forming Alden Pond off of Alden Street. See also: County Highways (Ludlow) - "Dam near Alden Street & Red Bridge Pond" - ch11025. See also: County Roads Plan #8 (1946) "Rebuild Dam - Camp Alden Associates Inc" (record book 26, page 109). See also: County Roads Plan #16 (1951) "Dam & Spillway Reconstruction at Alden Pond".

City/Town Ludlow

Dam	Alden Pond Dam
Name	Camp Alden Association Inc
Streets	Alden Street
Water	Alden Pond
Water	Broad Brook

April 26, 1933

Alden Brothers,  
Belchertown Road,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Broad Brook so called in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following condition noted and recommendation made by him;

"The spillway is built of dry stone masonry and covered with a wood plank flooring. On this flooring is built a planked timber framework one foot in height with its crest two feet below the top of the embankment. If this crest is to remain as the permanent overflow, which its design suggests, it is advisable that the top of the embankment be raised at least one foot for its entire length to increase the freeboard of the dam."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

COPY

November 5, 1948

Camp Alden Association, Inc.  
Edward Lavigne, President  
174 Sewall Street  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located on Broad Brook in Ludlow has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"At a recent inspection made of the Camp Alden Association, Inc. dam located on Broad Brook in Ludlow and constructed in 1946, it was found that the flash board pins are three-inch pipes and the free-board between the spillway and the top of the dam is six feet. The plans filed with the County, prepared by Durkee, White & Towne, Engineers, and dated September, 1945, called for two-inch pipe flash board pins and seven feet of free-board.

The top of the flash boards is only three feet below the top of the dam and with three-inch pins will not go out until the dam is overtopped.

The flash boards should be removed from the dam and should not be replaced until the three-inch pins are cut off flush with the spillway and two-inch pins used as the plans called for. The plates welded to the pipe pins should be clear of the concrete work to allow bending of the pins. With two-inch pins the free-board as constructed is adequate for the drainage area."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Alden Bros. Dam*

Charles W. Bray

Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

MEMO FOR NEXT CC MEETING

Jan. 12, 1956

Received a telephone call from Ed King in Ludlow, whose friend, Mr. Langevin is interested in the "Alden Dam"

Representative John Thompson stated that he would be able to obtain state funds for this project if it met with the approval of the Commissioners.

George McDonald will interview Mr. Langevin tonight and will have plans for submission at our next County Commissioners' Meeting.

I suggested 11:00 am. as a possible time when Mr. Langevin and Mr. McDonald could call at the office.

R. P. W.

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

CD-Ludlow

Jan. 18, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

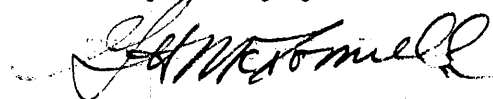
On Thursday, Jan. 12, 1956 the undersigned met with Mr. Leo Langevin, two members of the Board of Selectmen of Ludlow and a fourth interested party regarding the replacement of Alden Pond Dam in Ludlow. Alden Pond is a privately owned pond constructed for recreational and aesthetic purposes. The area surrounding the pond is used for home construction and summer camp purposes. The dam is on Broad Brook just easterly of Alden Street.

The owners of the dam requested County or State aid in reconstructing the dam. I pointed out at our field conference that the County, under the Law, could not show any requirement for replacing the dam as essential to the safety of lives and property downstream. Within the intent of the Law I explained that the elimination of the dam was more desirable than its replacement. Consequently I knew of no basis to order the restoration of the structure since a safe free-flow condition would be more desirable than the impounding of water from the viewpoint of persons and property downstream.

I have discussed this matter with Rep. John Thompson who indicated his willingness to assist the property owners involved if some reason were presented for the reconstruction of the dam for public necessity and good.

The enclosed letter to Mr. Langevin is self explanatory.

Very truly yours



Enc.  
GHM/cmb

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer



CD Ludlow  
June 20, 1956

Mr. Edward J. King  
21 Birch Street  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

At the request of County Commissioner Ralph P. Walsh, I am writing to you regarding the dam in Ludlow that was damaged in the August, 1955, flood at Alden Pond. This dam is a privately owned structure and under the Acts wherein public funds were made available for the repair of flood damage, state and federal money is not available for the restoration of the dam, insofar as I know, except that I believe the structure could be rebuilt under Chapter 91 of the Laws of the Commonwealth. I believe that under this Chapter, one-half of the funds are provided by the state and one-half of the funds by either the town or the owner of the property involved.

Insofar as the County is concerned, the County has no funds nor is there any provision in the set-up of the County government or in the laws of the Commonwealth that allow the County to financially participate in the construction of a damaged dam. If a dam is unsafe and the owner or owners refuse to repair the structure, the County can then either breach the structure or make the necessary repairs and charge these repairs against the property. Nowhere in the law is provision made for the County to pay for the repairs and not assess the property for reimbursement.

I have viewed the damaged Alden Dam and have discussed the problems of repairing this dam with several interested persons, particularly Mr. Leo Langevin. The undersigned and the County Commissioners appreciate the problem facing the owners of this structure and have offered advice to the owners to try and assist them in repairing their structure rapidly and economically.

It is my understanding that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has indicated to the owners that the Department of Public Works might participate to the extent of 50% on the repair of the structure. If such a program could be worked out, the owners of Alden Dam would experience a substantial reduction in the cost of the structure. I believe the owners are also particularly concerned regarding the time element and are anxious to have the dam

Mr. Edward J. King

June 20, 1956

repaired so that the pond can be formed again just as soon as possible. All agencies having to do with work of this nature are naturally overloaded with flood repair projects and I presume that a program in which the Commonwealth might participate probably would not be completed in time for early summer use. Plans and specifications of the proposed repairs should first be prepared and then the work constructed in accordance therewith.

Since the time element involved is a very important factor, the most rapid method of restoring the dam would be for the owners to engage engineering services to prepare plans and specifications. These plans and specifications would then be filed with the County for review and approval. This process would only involve a very minimum amount of time and, upon approval, construction could start. Perhaps the owners of the dam might be able to obtain state participation on a program such as this if the state authorities would go along with privately prepared plans. This is only a suggestion and would require an investigation by the dam owners. If such a scheme could be worked out, the repair of the dam could proceed at an early date and aid from the Commonwealth might reduce the cost of the structure to the owners by about one-half. Again, I am assuming that the Commonwealth might consider this dam a necessary part of Stream Clearance and Control under Chapter 91.

The undersigned and the County will assist the owners in any way possible and engineering advice during the planning stage as well as during construction will be provided the engineer engaged by the owners and the contractor awarded the construction work.

If I can be of any further assistance to you on this matter or provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Very truly yours,

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/r

*Edw. J. King 21 Birch St., Ludlow*

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
DIVISION OF WATERWAYS

100 Nashua Street, Boston

August 15, 1956

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Public Works, acting under the provisions of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, will give a public hearing on Wednesday, August 29th, 1956, at 10:30 o'clock A.M., in the Hearing Room on the Fourth floor of the Public Works Building, 100 Nashua Street, Boston, to all parties interested in the following:

Barnstable, dredging entrance channel, Hyannis Harbor

Boston, dredging, Savin Hill

Fall River, dredging at State Pier

Harwich, shore protection, vicinity of Earle Road

✓ Ludlow, dam repairs, Alden Pond ✓

New Bedford, removal of wreck, Clarks Cove

New Bedford, pier repairs, New Bedford Harbor

Northbridge, rebuild Kupfer Brothers dam, Blackstone River

Norwood, stream improvements, Neponset River

Plymouth, shore protection, Warrens Cove

Revere, shore protection, Point of Pines

Revere, stream clearance, Sales Creek

Warren, rebuild dam, Comins Pond

Wellesley, channel and culvert improvements, Fuller Brook

Westport, repairs, Town Pier, Westport Harbor

For the Department,

H. GORDON GRAY  
Acting Commissioner of Public Works

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

To the Department of Public Works:-

Respectfully represent your petitioners that public necessity and convenience require that the Commonwealth undertake work of the nature hereinafter set forth, for the improvement, development, maintenance or protection of the river, harbor, tidewaters or foreshores, situation in

..... in the county of .....

and Commonwealth aforesaid, and known as .....

The work petitioned for is as follows:

The petitioners expect to secure the following contributions toward the cost of the work:

Municipality:

Individuals or Organizations:

Dated this ..... day of .....

SIGNATURE

RESIDENCE

OFFICIAL POSITION

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND, INC.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
—189 HIGH STREET—  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

→ NOTE: OUR NEW ADDRESS ←  
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

CD - Ludlow  
August 20, 1956

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I have received notification from Mr. Langevin of Ludlow that there will be a hearing in Boston on the proposed reconstruction work at the dam at Alden Pond in Ludlow at 10:30 a.m. in the Hearing Room on the fourth floor of the Public Works Building at 100 Nashua Street, on Wednesday, August 29.

I am certain that the Ludlow officials and the many interested residents in the vicinity of Alden Pond are very interested in having the dam repaired as soon as possible and water restored in the pond. I know the interested parties would like to have the support of the County at the Hearing in order that every possible effort will be made to obtain a project for the reconstruction of the dam and the doing of certain improvements to the stream under a state-financed or state aid program.

It might be possible that I could arrange my schedule to be in Boston for this hearing if you desire representation. Also, you may wish to consider sending an official letter to the Department of Public Works regarding this project.

I will await your instructions in this matter.

In talking with Mr. Langevin today I told him that the County would undoubtedly support him and the other citizens of Ludlow in obtaining assistance for the reconstruction of the dam.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell

County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/f

Dam at  
Alden Pond  
Ludlow.

August 22, 1956

Mr. H. Gordon Gray,  
Acting Commissioner of Public Works,  
100 Nashua Street,  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

It has come to our attention that the Department of Public Works, acting under the provisions of Chapter 91 of the General Laws, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 23, 1956, at 10:30 o'clock A.M., in the hearing room of the Public Works building for the purpose of discussing the proposed reconstruction work on the dam at Alden Pond in Ludlow.

The Hampden County Commissioners wish to be recorded in favor of the proposal that the Department of Public Works provide the necessary funds and engineering services for the reconstruction of this dam.

We feel that public convenience and safety require that this work be undertaken at an early date and your co-operation to this end will be deeply appreciated.

Very truly yours,

HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RPU/E

copy to  
Leo Langevin  
Edward J. King  
G.H. McDonnell

Acting  
Commissioner

CD Ludlow  
June 3, 1958

Hayden, Harding & Buchanan, Inc., Engineers  
1340 Soldiers Field Road  
Boston 35, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the two sheets of drawings stamped "preliminary" and showing the proposed reconstruction of the spillway at Alden Pond dam in Ludlow, Mass., submitted to the undersigned for review, together with a copy of the preliminary specifications and the cost estimate of the work.

I have reviewed the plans and specifications and find that they are satisfactory. It will be essential that excellent compaction of the earth under the spillway be obtained. This is a matter that can be checked carefully in the field, to be sure that the spillway concrete has a good foundation and no voids will occur under the shaped slab.

I note that the plans provide for a key wall or fin, so called, on the westerly abutment wall of the spillway in line with the upper edge of the spillway wall and the cut-off wall that is carried to ledge. This key wall is turned at an angle of  $45^{\circ}$  with the line of the spillway. Elevation A-A indicates that this key wall will extend from a point into the bed rock to the elevation of the top of the abutment wall.

This key wall will make it rather difficult to compact the embankment against the abutment wall. I think your specifications should call this wall to the attention of the contractor in such a manner that he will be forewarned of the need to place the embankment material by hand and to compact the material with mechanical hand tampers on both sides of this key wall. Unless this point is stressed, I fear that the contractor will simply push material against the wall with his bulldozer or other piece of equipment and neither the tracks of the equipment nor the rollers themselves will get within two feet, more or less, of any part of the key wall. In fact, the space between the key wall and the abutment wing, as well as the abutment itself, should probably all be hand compacted when the embankment is placed.

I note that no key wall is included on the easterly abutment



GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

# **TIGHE & BOND** CONSULTING ENGINEERS

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

CD Ludlow

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

October 26, 1959

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

As the result of the very heavy rainfall on Saturday, October 24, 1959, damage was done to the newly constructed embankment at Alden Pond Dam in Ludlow, and to the cofferdam the Contractor had erected in connection with the construction of the new spillway at Alden Dam.

Alden Dam was washed out in the flood of August, 1955 and the project is being rebuilt as a Division of Waterways project under the Mass. Department of Public Works.

The embankment portion of the dam had been rebuilt under a separate contract and, upon completion of this work and filling of the pond it became evident that the old spillway could not be used since it had been undermined as the result of the flood waters and other damage had occurred while the spillway was standing dry from the period of the flood until the embankment had been re-built. The Division of Waterways then had plans and specifications prepared by a consultant and filed these plans and specifications with your Board for approval. The plans and specifications provide for a new concrete spillway with a foundation extending to rock or suitable impervious soil.

Work on the construction of Alden spillway had started about the first week of October and had progressed very slowly. As of October 7, the Contractor had excavated in the spillway area and had built an earth cofferdam connecting the embankment of the dam with the left natural bank of the pond. The normal flow of the brook was passing thru the conduit laid under the embankment.

Foundation grades had been exposed by the contractor and it had been discovered that instead of ledge being present, a rather impervious till type of material existed. A change in the footing of the upstream spillway wall was then in the planning and discussion stage.

# **TIGHE & BOND**

## **CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

-2-

A week later the undersigned found that no progress had been made in the construction of the new spillway. In fact, at mid-day on October 14, 1959, no personnel were found present at the site of the dam, a pump was operating and discharging water from the foundation excavation but seemed to be making little or no headway.

Another inspection of Alden Pond Dam construction was made on Oct. 21, and little or no progress was noted. The foundation excavation still existed but the contractor was present at the site of the work excavating the foundation while the material involved was still under water.

On Saturday noontime, October 24, 1959, the undersigned became concerned over the continuous hard rain that was falling. At about 1:30 PM I called the home office number of the Wilbraham Construction Co. and obtained the telephone number of the Alden Pond job Supt., as well as the telephone number where I could reach the head of the Wilbraham Construction Co. Since the Supt. of the Alden Pond job lived in Springfield, I contacted him first and at about 1:30 advised him that in my opinion rain was falling quite hard, runoff at Alden Pond was undoubtedly quite heavy and that he should have men and equipment at the site, if he did not already have them there, to maintain the cofferdam and protect his work area from damage, should the cofferdam be overtopped by the heavy runoff. I informed the construction Supt. that I would be at Alden Pond Dam by mid-afternoon, after I had made other stops along the way.

At about 3:30, I reached Alden Pond Dam and found nobody at the site of the work. Construction equipment was located in its normal position but there was no sign that anyone had been at the dam or had taken any steps to protect the cofferdam. Water was flowing thru the tube under the embankment from the shaft spillway and there apparently was free flow occurring. At the downstream end of the tube a full pipe of water was being discharged at a good velocity.

Water in Alden Pond was at that time below the top of the cofferdam and there was no indication that the pond had reached its peak crest. I waited for 10 or 15 minutes to see if any person would arrive at the construction site. No one had arrived upon my leaving the site at the end of this time interval.

I checked the stream below the dam as far as the Chicopee River to be certain that there was nothing in the area adjacent to the stream that would be endangered should the cofferdam be overtopped. I made other inspections in Palmer and at Brimfield.

Shortly after 5 PM, I returned to Alden Pond Dam to see if the Contractor had arrived at the site. The rain had stopped falling for about one hour previously. On arriving at the Dam I found the cofferdam had broken and the edge end of the


**TIGHE**  
**& BOND** CONSULTING ENGINEERS

-3-

cofferdam adjacent to the permanent embankment was washed thru. I examined the stream below the dam and found no evidence of any particular damage occurring. The only damage was directly at the dam where a portion of the embankment to which the cofferdam had abutted was washed away. Some riprap was washed out and the wooden foot bridge extending from the earth embankment to the top of the spillway shaft was destroyed.

I have written to the Division of Waterways of the Commonwealth of Mass. and a copy of my letter is enclosed in connection with the project. The contents of the letter are self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

CD Ludlow

Oct. 26, 1959

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Dept. of Public Works  
100 Nashua St.  
Boston, Mass.

Att: Waterways Division, Robert MacKinnon, Chief Engineer

Gentlemen:

You have no doubt been informed about the damage done at Alden Pond Dam, in Ludlow, as the result of the heavy rain occurring on Saturday, Oct. 24, 1959. Damage resulted when the cofferdam was breached at the point where the earth cofferdam abutted the new embankment built by the previous contractor. A portion of the embankment was washed away, some of the stone riprap dislodged and the foot bridge extending from the embankment to the top of the spillway shaft destroyed.

At the time of the heavy rain I informed the office of the contractor and the superintendent on the project that if they did not have personnel at the site of the work they certainly should send personnel there to protect the dam as best they could, should water rise high enough to overtop the cofferdam. This warning was issued by telephone at about 1:30 p.m. I inspected the site of Alden Pond Dam twice during the afternoon. Once at about 3:30 p.m. when water had not breached the cofferdam, but no one was at the site at that time. I inspected it again around 5:00 p.m. and found the cofferdam breached. At the time the contractor, his superintendent, and other people were at the site of the dam.

During the month of October I inspected the Alden Pond Dam on the 7th, 14th and the 21st while construction of the spillway was progressing. I found progress rather slow and was informed by the inspector on the job that the footing of the upstream concrete wall was not to be built on ledge but would be built on a footing to be constructed on dense and impervious material being excavated at about foundation grade.

cofferdam adjacent to the permanent embankment was washed thru. I examined the stream below the dam and found no evidence of any particular damage occurring. The only damage was directly at the dam where a portion of the embankment to which the cofferdam had abutted was washed away. Some riprap was washed out and the wooden foot bridge extending from the earth embankment to the top of the spillway shaft was destroyed.

I have written to the Division of Waterways of the Commonwealth of Mass. and a copy of my letter is enclosed in connection with the project. The contents of the letter are self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

COPY

November 13, 1959

Department of Public Works  
Division of Waterways  
100 Marine Street  
Boston, Massachusetts

Attention: Mr. Robert MacKinnon

Re: Dam at Alden Pond  
Ludlow, Massachusetts  
Our Job No. 56-050

Gentlemen:

On Monday, November 9, 1959, our Mr. Reynolds met at the job site with Messrs. Graham and Sullivan of your Division, and with Mr. George McDonnell, Hampden County Engineer. The meeting was held to investigate possible design modifications for the spillway cut-off wall which was to be founded on rock at elevation 305, at which elevation rock was found by a near-by core boring. Excavation in the spillway area, however, disclosed no rock at this elevation; a rod was driven below the bottom of the excavation to elevation 300 through firm material but did not encounter rock.

Analysis of creep ratios and uplift give satisfactory safety factors for cut-off bottom at elevation 305.

However, the Contractor's inability to keep the excavation dry has resulted in a very wet, soft and unsatisfactory bottom at elevation 305, and present excavation methods would, if continued, similarly disturb the underlying firm material to an equally unsatisfactory degree. The driving of sheet piling to effect better excavation control is not advisable since boulders are frequent.

Since the item for Control of Water is presumably predicated on rock at elevation 305, it does not appear that this item could apply under the new conditions where dewatering requirements are much more severe.

COPY

November 13, 1959

COPY

In consequence, it was agreed by all concerned, and is so recommended, that the Contractor install a well point system to permit excavation in the dry to firm, relatively impermeable material at elevation 300, at which elevation the cut-off wall is now to be founded. The cut-off wall should be placed on a keyed footing 2'-3" wide extending from elevation 300 to elevation 302. The well point system should be kept in operation until the wall is poured and the excavation carefully backfilled in the dry with compacted impermeable material.

The cost of this additional work is estimated to be as follows:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL QUANTITY</u>	<u>CONTRACT UNIT PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Well Point System & Pumping	1	3382 *	3382 *
Concrete	25	37.00	925
Reinforcing Steel	1000 lbs.	.21	210
Excavation	60 C.Y.	3.00	180
Impermeable Fill	50	1.50	75
TOTAL -			\$ 5372

\* Based on Contractor's phoned quotation - to be confirmed in writing.

The cost of the work appears reasonable, and it is accordingly recommended that an appropriate work order be prepared by your Division.

In addition to the work on the cut-off wall, the Contractor should be required to provide protective measures on the east shoulder of the Dam, through heavy rip rap or other means, to insure the safety of the building at the top of the very steep slope. Further, the spring issuing from the east shoulder which was discovered during the excavation should be intercepted and piped to a discharge downstream of the spillway.

Very truly yours,

HAYDEN, HANDLER & MACHANAN, INC.

By

COPY

JHR:mj

Joseph D. Guertin  
Assistant Chief Engineer

Copy to Mr. George McDonnell  
c/o Tighe & Bond  
Gower & Pequot Streets  
Holyoke, Massachusetts

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

# **TIGHE & BOND**

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Ludlow  
Nov. 18, 1959

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication received from the Dept. of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in connection with the Alden Pond spillway in Ludlow. When the contractor did his excavation for the new spillway, he found that no rock ledge existed at the grade shown as foundation grade on the plans. Apparently, the borings taken indicated boulders as being a ledge.

The undersigned has met with representatives of the Waterways Division of the State Department of Public Works and with representatives of the designing engineer on the matter at the site of the work in Ludlow. As a result of this conference and, based upon the recommendation of the undersigned, a well point system for dewatering the foundation is to be installed so that proper construction of the spillway can proceed.

The designing engineer sent a letter to the Division of Waterways of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Public Works, a copy of this letter being enclosed. Enclosed also is a copy of my communication to the Department of Public Works stating my opinion of the contents of the enclosed letter.

The letters are sent to you for your files on the Alden Pond Dam case.

**HAMPDEN COUNTY  
NOTED**

NOV 25 1959

GHM/cmb  
encs.

*Ralph P. Walsh*

*Thomas F. Sullivan*

*William F. Hagleton*

County Commissioners

Very truly yours

*George H. McDonnell*

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer



COPY

CD Ludlow  
Nov. 18, 1959

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Dept. of Public Works  
Division of Waterways  
100 Nashua Street  
Boston, Mass.

Att: Robert MacKinnon  
Chief Waterways Engineer

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the dam at Alden Pond in Ludlow, Mass., and the work of reconstructing the spillway now being carried on. I have received a copy of a communication from Hayden, Harding & Buchanan, Inc., dated Nov. 13, 1959 and written to you in connection with the foundation for the upper spillway wall.

I concur with the contents of this letter, particularly page 2.

The first paragraph on page 2 points out that the contractor is to install a well point system to permit excavation in the dry, to firm relatively impermeable material at elevation 300, at which elevation the cutoff wall is now to be founded.

I am of the opinion that the elevation of the foundation will be 300 plus or minus, depending upon the conditions discovered when excavation is resumed in the dry. If, after the well point system has dewatered the soil, it is found that a suitable undisturbed impervious foundation is available at 301, then this level could be used. Conversely, if it is found that at elevation 300 the foundation has been disturbed by previous work and is not suitable, then an extra foot or two of excavation may be required. Consequently, the well point system should be installed deep enough to dewater somewhat below elevation 300.

I believe that the protective measures at the east shoulder of the dam should be taken immediately. Excessive and continuous

CD Ludlow  
December 21, 1964

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
52 State Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to the list of unfinished dam cases sent to me earlier in the year for recommendations regarding the status of these dams. The Alden Pond dam in Ludlow, damaged in the flood of August, 1955, was rebuilt as a Flood Relief Project.

On May 1, 1957, your Honorable Board received a request from the Chief Waterways Engineer of the Division of Waterways of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for approval of plans and specifications of the proposed repairs to the dam.

Your Board issued an Interlocutory Decree dated May 22, 1957 approving the filed plans and specifications for the proposed reconstruction of the dam.

As work on the dam progressed and as a result of the determination of further damage to the overall facility and the need for a new spillway, the Chief Waterways Engineer submitted plans and specifications of the reconstruction of the spillway facility on March 12, 1959.

A second Interlocutory Decree was issued by your Honorable Board on April 1, 1959 approving the filed plans and specifications for the spillway.

The undersigned inspected the construction of the new dam and spillway and, since their completion, has made an annual inspection of the condition of the entire structure.

At the time of my last inspection as per the report on dams in Ludlow dated November 19, 1964, the dam and spillway were in satisfactory condition.

rainstorms could cause a further washing out of this soil and the undermining of the house now quite close to the top of the stream bank.

Ground water coming from a previous area in the natural soil from a point that will be under the new spillway, should be intercepted and piped to a discharge downstream of the spillway. However, I feel that this matter should not be left to the contractor alone. A drawing showing a proper arrangement for the installation of the pipe and a method for intercepting the water should be prepared so that the contractor will be properly instructed as to the method to be used in installing the drainage system. The system should be installed in such a way that there will be no movement of soil particles.

Very truly yours

GHM/cmb

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George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

COPY

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
WILLIAM W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

**TIGHE  
& BOND**

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Ludlow  
March 17, 1969

Alden Pond Association  
Alden Road  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

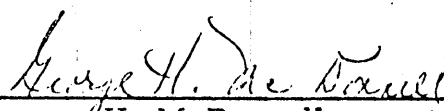
Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your dam in the Town of Ludlow, and the fact that there now exists a heavy snow cover throughout Western Massachusetts. The water content of this snow cover, coupled with a warm spring rain could result in extremely heavy runoff conditions. Consequently, the Commissioners of Hampden County have directed that I advise you to be sure that the spillway facilities at your dam are clear of any obstruction and that you take all precautions necessary to protect your dam as well as persons and property downstream.

It is advisable that you also lower the water level of the stored water through use of drawdown gates, and that this lowering be done at this time under controlled conditions so as not to drop the water level at too fast a rate wherein the embankment of the dam might be damaged or the rate of discharge could cause temporary flooding downstream.

If you have any question in connection with this matter, the undersigned can be reached at the above address and telephone number.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/amd



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

# County of Hampden

Springfield, Mass.

Office of the  
County Commissioners  
32 State Street

William F. Stapleton  
Chairman

~~Richard H. Barker~~

Floyd W. Fradet

Stephen A. Moynahan

December 3, 1969 *Allen*

Board of Selectmen  
Town Office  
Chestnut Street  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams in Hampden County, the County Hydraulic Engineer has recently made an inspection of the dam, apparently owned by the Town of Ludlow and forming Alden Pond off of Alden Street in Ludlow, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and the recommendations made by him.

"The earth embankment forming this dam was in fair condition. However, the elevation of the top of the embankment appears to be low in the vicinity of the spillway abutment. The top appears to have settled some and additional compacted material should be placed to bring the top of the embankment back up to the proper elevation.

The toe area of the earth embankment was in good condition. The stone fill was o. k.

Small tree and brush growth which is occurring from the stone filled face of the water side slope should be cut down and all re-growth discouraged.

The spillway itself was in satisfactory condition. Stoplogs were out of the crest at two sections, one on each end of the spillway. The toe pool and the pool downstream wall were o. k. Erosion in the stream bed is being controlled in a satisfactory manner.

Wingwalls on the upstream side of each spillway abutment show evidence of motion in that the joint in the wall is opening. The condition is not too bad as yet, but repairs may be needed in the future.

The drawdown gate and access bridge were noted to be o.k.

The owner of the dam should be advised to remove the brush and small tree growth as well as fill the top of the embankment up to the proper design elevation."

The work of correcting the elevation of the top of the earth embankment and the cutting of all brush growth should be accomplished during 1970. The dam should be properly maintained and any necessary work required to keep the dam in good condition, should be done annually.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Clark Dam



1926 Ludlow

Located on a tributary of Higher Brook.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Clark Dam
Name	Clark, Alva L
Water	Higher Brook

Page 37 of report.

Alva L. Clarke,  
Sudlow, Mass.

you are notified that your  
dam, located on a tributary of Higher Brook or  
called in the Town of Sudlow, etc.

"It is advisable, however,  
in case the dam is no longer going to  
be used, that a free passage way for  
the water be made through it, and  
pond drawn down."



March 24, 1926

Alva L. Clark,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on a tributary of Higher Brook so-called in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"It is advisable, however, in case the dam is no longer going to be used, that a free passage way for the water be made through it, and pond drawn down."

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Kowalzik Dam



1926 Ludlow

Located on Broad Brook.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Kowalzik Dam
Name	Kowalzik, Anthony
Water	Broad Brook

Page 38 of report

Anthony Kowaljik

Alden St.,

Sudlow, Mass.,

R. F. D.

you are notified that your  
dam, located on Broad Brook so called in the Town  
of Sudlow, etc.

"Inasmuch as the crest of the  
spillway is in poor condition, and the  
spillway is leaking, it is recommended  
that repairs be made thereon and that  
the top of the embankment be raised  
at least to three feet above the crest  
of the spillway."

Now, therefore, etc.

March 10, 1926

Mr. Anthony Kowalzik  
Alden St.  
Ludlow, R.F.D. Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Broad Brook so-called in the Town of Ludlow has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"Inasmuch as the crest of the spillway is in poor condition, and the spillway is leaking, it is recommended that repairs be made thereon and that the top of the embankment be raised at least to three feet above the crest of the spillway."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

November 17, 1926

Mr. Anthony Kowalczyk,  
Alden St., R.F.D.#1  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Inasmuch as your dam was inspected quite recently by our Engineer who found that no repairs had been made thereon, your attention is called to the notice sent to you on March 10, 1926 of which a copy is herewith enclosed.

In case you would like further information regarding the repairs required than that contained in notice, should you communicate or call upon our Engineer, James L. Tighe of the firm of Tighe & Bond, 189 High St., Holyoke, Mass., he will be glad to advise you.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

C/H  
Enc.

April 26, 1933

Mr. Anthony Kowalczyk,  
R. F. D. No. 1,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Broad Brook so called, in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"Some repairs have been made on the dam within the last two years but for greater safety it is advisable either to raise the earth embankments about two feet higher, or to excavate a swale overflow in the natural ground beyond one end of the dam. This latter work could be readily done at little expense."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairmen.

Meunier Dam fka Burelia Dam



Ludlow

Also see: Dam Report Section - Ludlow.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Burelia Dam
Dam	Meunier Dam

LUDLOW  
D12006

BURELIA DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)



Newcomb Dam



1955 Ludlow

Located across Alden Street.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Newcomb Dam
Name	Newcomb, Carl S
Streets	Alden Street

March 21, 1956

Mr. Carl S. Newcomb  
Alden Street  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth your dam located across Alden Street from your home was inspected by our Hydraulic Engineer, and his report to this Board shows that your dam, breached in the flood of August 1955, has not been repaired.

It is not necessary to make repairs on the structure. However, if it is decided to repair this dam and to pond water again, we call your attention to the requirements of Chapter 253 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth relative to the maintenance and repairs of dams.

This office and our Hydraulic Engineer would be pleased to assist you and provide you with any information desired when and if you decide to repair your dam.

If repairs to your structure fall within the requirements of the Law, plans and specifications of the proposed work must be prepared by your Engineer and filed with the County.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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CD-Ludlow

Oct. 11, 1956

Mr. Newcomb  
Alden St. at Poole St.,  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Newcomb:

Some time ago the County Commissioners of Hampden County asked me to stop at your house in Ludlow, because you wished to discuss your dam, located across Alden Street from your home. This dam was washed thru in the flood of August 1955.

During the past two months or so I have stopped at your house on three separate occasions but found no one home.

If you wish to discuss this dam, I will be pleased to meet you at your house whenever you expect to be there. Will you kindly let me know the best hour of the day or the day of the week to stop by on this matter?

Very truly yours

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engr

GHM/cmb

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
**BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS**  
**HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**GEORGE H. McDONNELL**  
**PHILIP W. SHERIDAN**

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

CD-Ludlow

Oct. 11, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
31 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Enclosed, for your information and file purposes, is a copy of a communication sent to Mr. Newcomb of Ludlow, relative to his request for a conference on his dam. This letter is self explanatory.

Very truly yours

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engr

Enc.  
GHM/cmb

OD Ludlow  
Sept. 17, 1957

Mr. C. Newcomb,  
Alden St. at Foote St.,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

This will confirm my conversation with you in the field in Ludlow on Monday, Sept. 10, 1957 regarding the proposed reconstruction of your dam and pond opposite your property in Ludlow.

During the flood of 1955 the earthen portion of your dam on the right side of the spillway was breached. A large opening now exists thru the earth embankment of the original dam. It is your proposal to restore this dam and to have a small pond for personal use.

The drainage area involved is less than one square mile and providing that the depth of water in the pond to be formed is not increased above the crest of the spillway as now existing, the quantity of water in storage will, in all probability, not exceed one million gallons. The height of the dam is very close to 10 ft. above stream bed at the site of the dam. If the dam is not raised to a greater height than existed prior to the flood, I am of the opinion that your proposed construction will not come under County jurisdiction.

According to the Law, a dam must either be more than 10 ft. in height, it must impound more than one million gallons or it must be constructed on a drainage area of more than one square mile before the County has jurisdiction over the structure. Your dam is a borderline case and provided that the height of the dam is not increased nor the volume of water stored is not increased, it will not be necessary for you to prepare detailed plans for filing with the County.

If the undersigned can be of assistance to you at any time, in connection with this proposed reconstruction, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Very truly yours

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/emb

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
**BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS**  
**HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991**  
**GEORGE H. McDONNELL**  
**PHILIP W. SHERIDAN**

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

CD Ludlow  
Sept. 17, 1957

Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
31 Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information and file purposes please find a copy of a communication sent to Mr. Newcomb of Alden Street in Ludlow confirming a verbal conversation between Mr. Newcomb and the undersigned at the site of his dam opposite his home in Ludlow. The contents of this letter are self explanatory.

Very truly yours

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

Enc.  
GHN/cmb

Collins Dam aka Alchar-Wilbraham Corporation Dam



o Ludlow

Also see: Dam Report Section - Ludlow.

Abutters	Wilbraham Industrial Park
Abutters	Alchar-Wilbraham Corporation
City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Alchar-Wilbraham Corporation Dam
Dam	Collins Dam

LUDLOW  
D12008

COLLINS DAM AKA ALCHER-WILBRAHAM  
CORPORATION DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)



Carver Mill Dam



1933 Ludlow

Small stone masonry dam adjacent to the Granby town line on Stony Brook.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Carver Mill Dam
Name	Carver, Elmer H
Name	Forgie, Thomas J
Water	Stony Brook

April 26, 1933

Mr. Elmer H. Carver,  
West Street,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Stony Brook so called, in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following condition noted and recommendation made by him;

"The downstream end of the westerly wing wall, which is built of dry stone masonry, requires some repairs. It might be well to grout or re-lay this wall in cement mortar."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

**TIGHE  
& BOND**

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Ludlow  
May 1, 1969

The Honorable the Board of County Commissioners  
52 State Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Re: Carver Dam

Gentlemen:

The above subject dam is a small stone masonry structure located in Ludlow adjacent to the Granby town line. It is situated on Stony Brook at a point where the drainage area is about 5-1/3 square miles. The dam was formerly an earth embankment having a masonry spillway in the center. The pond originally covered approximately 3 acres and furnished power to operate a saw mill.

In the flood of August, 1955, the dam was washed out and the only remaining portion is a central masonry section where the stream now flows around the right end. The water power formed by the dam was not used for many years prior to the August, 1955 flood.

The property is presently owned by Mr. Thomas J. Forgie of West St., Ludlow. Mr. Forgie has called twice in the past week for information relative to steps which must be taken prior to any construction or reconstruction at the dam location.

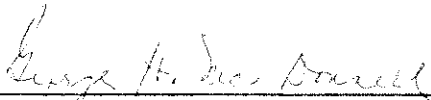
I have suggested to Mr. Forgie that since the work he plans to do at this time is simply excavation and stream clearance, he should check with the Mass. Dept. of Natural Resources under the Hatch Act and also confer with the proper Town officials of Ludlow to get any permits needed for any excavation work and reshaping of the stream within the brook valley.

**TIGHE**  
**& BOND** CONSULTING ENGINEERS

-2-

This information is sent to you for file purposes and to advise your Honorable Board that any work being carried on this summer within the area of the old Carver Mill Dam will undoubtedly simply be the work of clearing the old pond area of flood flow deposits.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/amd

Higher Brook Dam aka Block Dam aka Rozkuszka Dam



1935 Ludlow

Dam located on Higher Brook at Ludlow High School

Abutters	Ludlow High School
City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Rozkuszka Dam
Dam	Higher Brook Dam
Dam	Block Dam
Name	Block, Samuel
Name	Rozkuszka, Walter A
Streets	Holyoke Street
Water	Higher Brook

April 26, 1933

Mr. Samuel Block  
63 Bancroft Street,  
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Higher Brook so called, in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him;

"This dam is in very poor condition and is in need of substantial repairs if the pond is to be maintained. The drain sluice through the embankment is collapsing and leaks considerably; the downstream stone facing of the dam is falling down in places; the horizontal wooden apron is going to pieces and practically all the flooring has been torn off it; and the trees growing on the earthen part of the dam should be cut down. If it is not intended to repair and put this dam in good condition, then it should be breached in order to drain the pond and allow a free passage for the flow of the brook."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendation be complied with in a reasonable length of time.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chas. Irman.

July 1, 1935

Mr. Brodeur of Ludlow  
came in to report to  
Comms that a  
washout ~~took~~ of the  
Harris Brook Dam  
owned by Mr. Samuel  
Block, took place  
June 30<sup>th</sup> about  
3 A.M. — 10 feet  
away from where  
the gate is.

Mr. Brodeur thinks  
a leak caused  
the washout.

<sup>7/6<sup>th</sup></sup>  
Tel. Mr. Tighe to  
investigate & report  
to Comms.

July 10, 1935

Commissioners Costello, Bray and Donahue  
James L. Tighe, Hydraulic Engineer  
William C. Giles, County Counsel

Harris Brook Dam - Samuel Block, owner.

The Town<sup>of Ludlow</sup> wanted to build a bridge across the pond and in order to do so they received permission to let the water down about two feet at the upper end of the dam. We told them it was all right with the Commissioners but not to raise it. When putting in new gate, they hit or pounded it thereby causing the leaks and washout. Mr. Block has brought suit. According to County records Commissioners have notified this man several times to cut the trees because the roots were causing the seepage. According to our records it is true and he has complied with everything Mr. Tighe has asked him to do. As long as he has brought suit the Town will be in here and ask our opinion as to who is responsible. Mr. Giles stated it is a matter between the land owner and the Town, - that the County is not financially interested, and that if they ask our angle we would be justified in telling the Town that this man has complied with our records and that the Town has broken the culvert when putting in a new gate, evidently pounding it, causing the leak and break.



December 17, 1952

Walter A. Rozkuszka  
278 Windsor St.  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located on Higher Brook just upstream from Holyoke Street has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"There is leakage thru the face of the abutment of the gate structure and around the drawoff pipe. The leak should be investigated and repairs made on the upstream side and between the walls of the structure."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Block Dam  
Ludlow*

COPY

CD-Ludlow

May 8, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

While inspecting the dams in the Town of Ludlow last week I noted that construction work was being carried on in the vicinity of the highway culvert on Holyoke Street where Higher Brook passes under the street. Directly upstream of the culvert is a dam known as the Block Dam. During the flood of August the embankment and abutment area to the right of the dam was washed thru and a breach formed for the passage of the brook.

The dam has remained unrepaired since the flood. However, in carrying on the work of repairs to protect the Holyoke Street culvert, the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has filled in the breach and thus caused the ponding of water behind the dam.

To my knowledge, no plans and specifications have been prepared for this work taking into consideration the fact that the fill will result in impounding water. Also, I do not know if the Department of Public Works has reviewed the spillway capacity to determine whether or not the spillway should be enlarged to provide for the passage of very heavy flood flows.

When I first observed the work the Contractor employed by the State was simply protecting the banks of the stream. However, when passing the area a few days later I noted that fill had been placed in the breach to the right of the dam.

The fact that this dam is being repaired with funds of the Commonwealth and by the Commonwealth has also been brought to my attention through telephone calls by two residents

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Springfield, Mass.

CD-Ludlow  
May 8, 1956

of Ludlow. One of these persons is Mr. Langevin, a gentleman interested in obtaining aid for the repair of Alden Pond. The other person, I believe is a resident adjacent to the pond formed by the dam.

I am passing on the above information for your review and will discuss this matter with the State officials if you so desire. I will await your instructions on this matter.

Respectfully

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GMM/cmb

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

June 7, 1956


The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information and file purposes please find a copy of a communication sent to the Highway Division of the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, regarding the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow. The enclosed is self-explanatory.

Though I have written the state two previous letters on this matter, I have received no answer regarding their repair of the dam without filing plans and specifications. From my recent inspection it is apparent that the fill placed in the breach of the dam will undoubtedly fail and action should be taken to either properly repair the dam or to breach it again.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/f

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

CD- Chicopee  
May 16, 1956

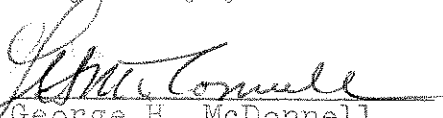
The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
3 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In reference to your request regarding my contacting Mr. Max Zielinski of Lombard Road in the Chicopee Falls section of Chicopee, I have talked with Mr. Zielinski relative to his concern over the closure of the breach at the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow. I have assured Mr. Zielinski that we are looking into the situation and that proper protective action will be taken, if necessary, to safeguard people downstream.

I promised Mr. Zielinski to see him when I am in the area.

Very truly yours

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

CD-Ludlow

May 8, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

While inspecting the dams in the Town of Ludlow last week I noted that construction work was being carried on in the vicinity of the highway culvert on Holyoke Street where Higher Brook passes under the street. Directly upstream of the culvert is a dam known as the Block Dam. During the flood of August the embankment and abutment area to the right of the dam was washed thru and a breach formed for the passage of the brook.

The dam has remained unrepaired since the flood. However, in carrying on the work of repairs to protect the Holyoke Street culvert, the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has filled in the breach and thus caused the ponding of water behind the dam.

To my knowledge, no plans and specifications have been prepared for this work taking into consideration the fact that the fill will result in impounding water. Also, I do not know if the Department of Public Works has reviewed the spillway capacity to determine whether or not the spillway should be enlarged to provide for the passage of very heavy flood flows.

When I first observed the work the Contractor employed by the State was simply protecting the banks of the stream. However, when passing the area a few days later I noted that fill had been placed in the breach to the right of the dam.

The fact that this dam is being repaired with funds of the Commonwealth and by the Commonwealth has also been brought to my attention through telephone calls by two residents

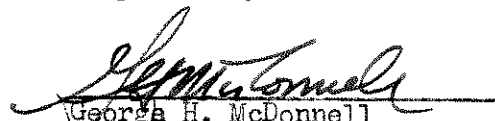
The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Springfield, Mass.

CD-Ludlow  
May 8, 1956

of Ludlow. One of these persons is Mr. Langevin, a gentleman interested in obtaining aid for the repair of Alden Pond. The other person, I believe is a resident adjacent to the pond formed by the dam.

I am passing on the above information for your review and will discuss this matter with the State officials if you so desire. I will await your instructions on this matter.

Respectfully

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

May 9, 1956 - Commissioner William F. Stapleton called Mr. George H. McDonnell on the telephone today and requested that he contact the State Officials regarding this matter.

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, INC.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

C.D.-Ludlow

May 11, 1956

The Hon The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed for your information and file purposes is a copy of a letter sent to the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth regarding their restoration of Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow. The enclosed is self explanatory. Upon receiving the requested information from the Public Works Department, I will send this information to you.

Very truly yours,



George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mdb

Enclosure



COPY

CD-Ludlow

May 8, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

While inspecting the dams in the Town of Ludlow last week I noted that construction work was being carried on in the vicinity of the highway culvert on Holyoke Street where Higher Brook passes under the street. Directly upstream of the culvert is a dam known as the Block Dam. During the flood of August the embankment and abutment area to the right of the dam was washed thru and a breach formed for the passage of the brook.

The dam has remained unrepaired since the flood. However, in carrying on the work of repairs to protect the Holyoke Street culvert, the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has filled in the breach and thus caused the ponding of water behind the dam.

To my knowledge, no plans and specifications have been prepared for this work taking into consideration the fact that the fill will result in impounding water. Also, I do not know if the Department of Public Works has reviewed the spillway capacity to determine whether or not the spillway should be enlarged to provide for the passage of very heavy flood flows.

When I first observed the work the Contractor employed by the State was simply protecting the banks of the stream. However, when passing the area a few days later I noted that fill had been placed in the breach to the right of the dam.

The fact that this dam is being repaired with funds of the Commonwealth and by the Commonwealth has also been brought to my attention through telephone calls by two residents

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Springfield, Mass.

CD-Ludlow  
May 8, 1956

of Ludlow. One of these persons is Mr. Langevin, a gentleman interested in obtaining aid for the repair of Alden Pond. The other person, I believe is a resident adjacent to the pond formed by the dam.

I am passing on the above information for your review and will discuss this matter with the State officials if you so desire. I will await your instructions on this matter.

Respectfully

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GEM/cmb

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Public Works  
Highway Division  
191 Main St.  
Greenfield, Mass.

**COPY**

Attention Mr. Prescott

Gentlemen:

Recently I noticed construction being carried on at Holyoke Street in Ludlow at the site of Block Dam on Higher Brook. I note that the work has included the closing of the breach at the right of the dam. On discussing this work with the local representative of your Department, I understand that the work was done to protect the culvert and the Holyoke Street Highway.

In doing the work, however, the pond behind Block Dam has been restored without filing plans and specifications with Hampden County as required by law of the Commonwealth.

Since the flood of August and October, repairs to all dams in the County have included a review of the drainage area and the spillway capacity of each structure. No dam has been restored nor a breach closed without first reviewing the spillway capacity and the filing of plans and specifications with the County.

In review of your restoration of the Block Dam in Ludlow, will plans and specifications of this work be filed and will additional spillway capacity be provided to guarantee the structure at time of extreme runoff conditions?

Very truly yours,

**COPY**

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GIM/ndb

COPY

CD- Chicopee  
May 16, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
3 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In reference to your request regarding my contacting Mr. Max Zielinski of Lombard Road in the Chicopee Falls section of Chicopee, I have talked with Mr. Zielinski relative to his concern over the closure of the breach at the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow. I have assured Mr. Zielinski that we are looking into the situation and that proper protective action will be taken, if necessary, to safeguard people downstream.

I promised Mr. Zielinski to see him when I am in the area.

Very truly yours

Signature

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/omb

COPY

CD Ludlow  
May 31, 1956

COPY

Block Dam

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Public Works  
Highway Division  
191 Main Street  
Greenfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:                      Att: Mr. Prescott

Recently we wrote to you for information regarding the repair of a dam in Ludlow just upstream from a culvert on Holyoke Street. This dam comes under the General Law wherein plans and specifications of work on the dam must be filed with the County Commissioners. On recent inspections I find that water is ponded behind the dam. I have also received complaints from certain citizens regarding this structure.

In my letter of May 11, 1956, I inquired as to whether or not plans and specifications for the work will be filed and what additional spillway capacity will be provided to guarantee the structure at time of extreme run-off conditions.

When I last inspected this dam, I found that rip rap placed by your contractor was blocking the drain through the dam. Also leakage is occurring through the gate structure of the dam.

An early reply regarding this structure would be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

COPY

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/f

CD - Ludlow  
June 7, 1956

COPY

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Division of Highways  
191 Main Street  
Greenfield, Mass.

Att: Mr. C. M. Damon, District Engineer

Gentlemen:

In connection with maintenance and repair of a culvert on Holyoke Street in Ludlow, I examined the dam immediately upstream of the culvert and find that the section of the dam repaired by a contractor working under direction of your department and located to the right of the spillway structure is leaking badly and is in danger of being washed through. Since we have received complaints from citizens downstream of this structure and since it is apparent that the fill placed to the right of the dam may fail, will you kindly take the necessary steps to prevent the further ponding of water behind this dam, as soon as possible.

We have written communications regarding this dam during the past few weeks and wish to know whether or not the dam is to be permanently repaired or the breach reopened to prevent water ponding.

Very truly yours,

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/r

COPY

C O P Y

191 Main Street  
Greenfield, Mass.  
June 12, 1956

Ludlow - Town Ways  
Chapter 236  
Contract #6514

Mr. George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer  
Tighe & Bond, Inc.  
189 High Street  
Holyoke, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Please excuse my delay in replying to your several letters relative to the conditions on Holyoke Street in Ludlow at Block Dam on Higher Brook.

After receipt of your letter of May 11 I viewed the location and on further investigation requested the engineer supervising this particular area to have the breach in the dam reopened and the paving of the slope completed to prevent further scour from reaching the roadway area.

It was found that the contractor was employed on other portions of his contract at that time and as there seemed to be no immediate danger he was allowed to delay the clean-up work on the area at the dam.

On investigation we find that the rip-rap which is blocking the drain pipe from the dam was dumped into the water by vandals who used the contractor's materials stored on the shores of the pond in an attempt to pond the water for swimming or other purposes.

We plan on making a special effort to have the work at this location completed and the area cleaned up.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Charles M. Damon  
CHARLES M. DAMON

District Highway Engineer

CMD/moh

C-Mr. Foster  
Mr. Prescott  
Mr. Thompson

CD Ludlow  
June 20, 1956

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In reference to my recent communications regarding the repair of the breach at the right side of the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow, I have discussed this matter with representatives of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth and find that the contractor working for the Commonwealth repairing the Holyoke Street culvert filled in the breach of the dam and thus caused impounding of the water. It is my understanding that the filling of this breach was done in error by the contractor and was not an authorized part of the construction work.

The breach was not filled in accordance with specifications for a dam embankment and consequently there is leakage through the dam in this filled section. The Commonwealth has directed the contractor to remove the material from the breach and to restore the dam to its condition prior to the contractor moving on to the job. The owner of the dam, who apparently did not object to the unintentional repairs of the structure, has now apparently directed the contractor and the Department of Public Works representative to stay off of his property and will not allow the removal of the fill from the dam. I have been informed by the Greenfield office of the Department of Public Works that a man and a lawyer were at the site of the dam when the contractor was preparing to remove the fill from the breach and that they directed the contractor to stay off of their property.

Since the dam has been repaired without plans and specifications being filed and since the repair is not considered to be safe in the opinion of the undersigned, it is advisable that the breach be reopened until proper repairs are planned. Since the owner of the structure will not allow the state to do this work, it would seem advisable to notify him of his responsibility and



The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners

June 20, 1956

to direct that the breach be reopened and the pond kept empty until proper repairs are made. The owners of the Block Dam, according to our records, are Walter A. and Rose Rozkuszka, 278 Winsor Street, Ludlow, Mass.

Respectfully submitted,

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/r

June 20, 1956

Mr. Walter A. Rozkuszka  
278 Winsor Street  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

The County Hydraulic Engineer has reported to this Board that the dam owned by you on Higher Brook in Ludlow and directly upstream from Holyoke Street was repaired recently by the filling of the breach at the right of the dam by a contractor working for the state Department of Public Works on maintenance and repair work of the Holyoke Street culvert. The breach at the right of your dam was apparently filled by the contractor through some error in operations and the Department of Public Works has been notified that since the filling of this breach does not comply with the requirements of the General Law, the breach should be reopened and all fill placed therein removed until the General Law is complied with.

It is our understanding from the Department of Public Works that the contractor recently went to the site of your dam to remove the fill from the breach but that he was prevented from doing this work by persons at the site claiming to be the owner or owners of the dam. The Department of Public Works is willing to remove the fill if allowed entry upon the property.

Based upon the assumption that you are objecting to the Department removing this fill from the right of your dam, it would seem essential that you accept the responsibility of this fill being placed in the breach and that removal thereof must then be done by you.

According to the General Laws of the Commonwealth, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, the breach through your dam must be properly repaired after the filing of plans and specifications of the proposed work by the owner of the dam. When the plans and specifications are approved, you can then repair this structure.

Mr. Walter A. Rozkuszka

June 20, 1956

If you have any question on this matter or wish to discuss the matter, kindly call or write the County Hydraulic Engineer. The County Engineer's office is at Bowers and Pequot Streets, Holyoke, Mass., and he is George H. McDonnell. The telephone is Holyoke, JEfferson 3-3991.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

William F. Stapleton

Thomas F. Sullivan

Ralph P. Walsh

GHM/f

Walter  
Foy Ruskka

11 am.

Ludlow

June 27/56

COPY

CD-Ludlow

July 9, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

This date I met with representatives of the State Department of Public Works and Mr. Walter A. Rozkuszka in Ludlow, relative to the work done to date on the dam owned by Mr. Rozkuszka on Higher Brook in Ludlow, just upstream from Holyoke Street.

It was agreed by all persons that the section of the dam repaired by the Department of Public Works, of the Commonwealth, for the purpose of protecting the Holyoke Street bridge would be enlarged and altered in such a way as to provide adequate safety for the dam, and the satisfactory operating conditions during time of extreme overflow at the dam.

The work will begin within the next two weeks and carried on to completion. Mr. Rozkuszka will file Plans and Specifications of the proposed work with your Board.

Very truly yours

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

COPY

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND, Inc.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
—189 HIGH STREET—  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

—————> NOTE: OUR NEW ADDRESS <—————  
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

CD-Ludlow

July 9, 1956

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts


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The work will begin within the next two weeks and carried on to completion. Mr. Rozkuszka will file Plans and Specifications of the proposed work with your Board.

Very truly yours

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

**TIGHE & BOND, Inc.**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
—189 HIGH STREET—  
**HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**GEORGE H. McDONNELL**  
**PHILIP W. SHERIDAN**

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

→ NOTE: OUR NEW ADDRESS ←  
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

CD Ludlow  
June 20, 1956

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Elm Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In reference to my recent communications regarding the repair of the breach at the right side of the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow, I have discussed this matter with representatives of the Department of Public Works of the Commonwealth and find that the contractor working for the Commonwealth repairing the Holyoke Street culvert filled in the breach of the dam and thus caused impounding of the water. It is my understanding that the filling of this breach was done in error by the contractor and was not an authorized part of the construction work.

The breach was not filled in accordance with specifications for a dam embankment and consequently there is leakage through the dam in this filled section. The Commonwealth has directed the contractor to remove the material from the breach and to restore the dam to its condition prior to the contractor moving on to the job. The owner of the dam, who apparently did not object to the unintentional repairs of the structure, has now apparently directed the contractor and the Department of Public Works representative to stay off of his property and will not allow the removal of the fill from the dam. I have been informed by the Greenfield office of the Department of Public Works that a man and a lawyer were at the site of the dam when the contractor was preparing to remove the fill from the breach and that they directed the contractor to stay off of their property.

Since the dam has been repaired without plans and specifications being filed and since the repair is not considered to be safe in the opinion of the undersigned, it is advisable that the breach be reopened until proper repairs are planned. Since the owner of the structure will not allow the state to do this work, it would seem advisable to notify him of his responsibility and

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners

June 20, 1956

to direct that the breach be reopened and the pond kept empty until proper repairs are made. The owners of the Block Dam, according to our records, are Walter A. and Rose Rozkuszka, 278 Winsor Street, Ludlow, Mass.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. H. McDonnell", written over a horizontal line.

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/r



WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

TIGHE & BOND, Inc.  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
—189 HIGH STREET—  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN

DAMS & POWER INSTALLATIONS  
HIGHWAYS & BRIDGES  
HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
WASTE DISPOSAL

→ NOTE: OUR NEW ADDRESS ←  
BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

CD Ludlow  
June 14, 1956

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In reference to my recent communications regarding repair work to the Block Dam on Higher Brook in Ludlow upstream from Holyoke Street. I have received the enclosed letter from the Department of Public Works relative to this structure.

The letter from Mr. Danon, District Highways Engineer, is self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/c

C O P Y

191 Main Street  
Greenfield, Mass.  
June 12, 1955

Ludlow - Town Ways  
Chapter 238  
Contract 46514

Mr. George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer  
Figue & Bond, Inc.  
180 High Street  
Holyoke, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Please excuse my delay in replying to your several letters relative to the conditions on Holyoke Street in Ludlow at Block Dam on Higher Brook.

After receipt of your letter of May 11 I viewed the location and on further investigation requested the engineer supervising this particular area to have the breach in the dam reopened and the paving of the slope completed to prevent further scour from reaching the roadway area.

It was found that the contractor was employed on other portions of his contract at that time and as there seemed to be no immediate danger he was allowed to delay the clean-up work on the area at the dam.

On investigation we find that the rip-rap which is blocking the drain pipe from the dam was dumped into the water by vandals who used the contractor's materials stored on the shores of the pond in an attempt to pond the water for swimming or other purposes.

We plan on making a special effort to have the work at this location completed and the area cleaned up.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Charles M. Damon  
CHARLES M. DAMON

CMD/moh

District Highway Engineer

C-Mr. Foster  
Mr. Prescott  
Mr. Thompson

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

***TIGHE  
& BOND***

***CONSULTING ENGINEERS***

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991


CD Ludlow  
June 12, 1963

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter sent to the Planning Board of Ludlow in answer to their letter written to your Board asking for information regarding the dam on Harris Brook, just upstream of Holyoke Street. The contents of our letter are self-explanatory.

Very truly yours,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

Enc.

CD Ludlow  
June 12, 1963

Town of Ludlow  
Office of the Planning Board  
97 North Street  
Ludlow, Mass.

Att: F. W. Barker, Clerk

Gentlemen:

The County Commissioners of Hampden County have received your letter of June 3, 1963, requesting information on the height of the Harris Brook Dam, located off of Holyoke Street in Ludlow. The County Commissioners have directed that I answer your letter, since I am County Hydraulic Engineer for the County of Hampden.

I have checked the old records on this dam and find that back in December of 1939, a report on the dam recommended approval of a spillway crest of 7-1/2 ft. above the bed of the brook.

Based upon my last inspection of this dam, the height of the spillway above the bed of the brook does not exceed this 7-1/2 ft. limitation.

If there is any other information you need in connection with this matter, I will be pleased to provide it to you.

Very truly yours

GHM/cmb

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer



TOWN OF LUDLOW

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Hampden County Commissioners  
52 State Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts.

February 2, 1968

Gentlemen:

On January 31, 1968 I received a copy of your letter to the Ludlow School Department, dated January 10, 1968, regarding a report by the County Hydraulic Engineer, as to conditions existing at the rear of the Ludlow High School, Chapin Street and Higher Brook.

It was indeed alarming, since now both new Schools and the new Fire and Police complex are in jeopardy. I judge this calls for immediate action to relieve this condition.

Superintendent Hugh MacFarlane School Department will call a meeting of all departments concerned, hopefully, to take steps to relieve this condition. Also the Department of Natural Resources, since it would involve the Hatch Act.

Would it be possible for the County Hydraulic Engineer to make any recommendations, such as the requirements necessary there and along the Higher Brook drainage and water shed area? Or would it be possible for him to attend our next Conservation Commission meeting on February 7th at 8.00PM in the Selectmens Room, Chestnut Street Ludlow. It is of most importance, since three bridges and a dam at Harris Pond could be effected under flood conditions. Any help by your Commission would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for calling our attention to this dangerous condition.

Sincerely yours

*Herbert J. A. Westphalen*  
Herbert J. A. Westphalen, Chairman

P. O. Box 7  
Ludlow, Mass. 01056

*cc sent to  
The Town Board  
Hughes and Board*

CD Ludlow  
February 12, 1968

Conservation Commission  
Town of Ludlow  
P. O. Box 7  
Ludlow, Massachusetts 01056

Attn: Mr. Herbert J. A. Westphalen, Chairman

Gentlemen:

Your communication directed to the Commissioners of Hampden County regarding the location of the old dam on Higher Brook behind the Ludlow High School was forwarded to the undersigned by the County Commissioners. Your letter requested that I meet with your Board to discuss the matter of my reports on conditions at this old dam site. The time of the meeting as set forth in your communication was 8:00 p.m. on February 7th. It was impossible for me to be at your meeting on Wednesday, February 7th in that I was out of town on that date and did not return to my office until February 9th. Your letter arrived while I was away. Had it reached me prior to the 7th I could have discussed the matter with you via telephone even though it would have been impossible for me to meet with you on the evening of February 7th.

As reported to the County Commissioners following my inspection late in 1967, the facilities as existing at the old dam on Higher Brook directly behind the high school are now simply nothing more than a culvert under a fill. As such, the facilities are part of a drainage system and not a water storage system. The drainage area of Higher Brook upstream of the site of the old dam where the single culvert now exists is about four square miles. This is a large drainage area. In the opinion of the undersigned the single culvert now existing from the old dam spillway inlet box

and extending under the filled ground behind the high school will not be able to pass flood flows which may be expected from the four square mile drainage area in future years.

If the flow of Higher Brook exceeds the capacity of the existing single culvert and flood flow conditions continue for a sufficient length of time to cause water to rise up to the level of the filled ground, a pond will be formed at the site of the old pond. Thus, it can be expected that water level in the old pond can reach, under future flood flow conditions the height of the top of the fill over the single culvert. If the elevation of this fill is above the bottom floor level of any adjacent building, then there could be water damage experienced during flood flow conditions.

If the flood flow results in water level reaching the top of the earth fill at the culvert location and flood flow conditions do not subside, it can be expected that a gully will be washed across the wide fill about parallel to the drain pipe and stored water released by the formation of a gully.

As pointed out in previous communications and reports, the capacity for passing water through the fill behind the high school should be increased if over-topping of this fill by flood flows in Higher Brook is to be prevented in future years. Capacity can be increased by the installation of an additional culvert facility. If, on taking elevations of the top of the existing fill versus floor levels of adjacent structures it is found that there is an ample safety factor to prevent any undesirable flooding conditions, a paved emergency swale type overflow could be formed in the earth fill to pass flood flows when the rate of run-off exceeds the culvert capacity.

If I can be of service to you by attending a meeting of your Commission, I will be pleased to do so. My schedule is normally filled approximately 10 days to 2 weeks in advance and since I have many evening meetings it would be well to schedule any conference on this matter well in advance of the planned date.

Very truly yours,

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/amd

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

***TIGHE  
& BOND*** *CONSULTING ENGINEERS*

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Ludlow  
February 12, 1968

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
52 State Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts


Gentlemen:

Re: Dam on Higher Brook  
at Ludlow High School

On Friday, February 9th I received the copy of the letter from the Conservation Commission of Ludlow, addressed to your Board, requesting me to attend the next meeting of the Commission on February 7th at 8:00 p. m. in the Selectmens' office in Ludlow. Since I did not receive the communication until the 9th of February, it was not possible to attend this meeting. Even if I had received the letter prior to February 7th, I was in New Hampshire on that day and would not have been available for an evening meeting in Ludlow.

The undersigned has written to the Conservation Commission and enclose herewith a copy of my communication for your files.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/amd  
Encl.



Gauthier Dams



1951 Ludlow

Dams off Lawrence Brook, located at rear of property at 172 Chapin Street near the Chicopee River.  
See also: County Roads Plan #11 (1951) "Dam at H J Gauthier - Chapin Street".

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Gauthier Dams
Name	Gauthier, Leo
Name	Gauthier, Stephanie
Name	Gauthier, Homer
Streets	Chapin Street
Streets	Miller Street
Water	Chicopee River
Water	Lawrence Brook

C O P Y

TIGHE & BOND  
Consulting Engineers  
189 High Street,  
Holyoke, Mass.

April 17, 1951

The Hon Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Attention: William Stapleton, Chairman

Gentlemen:-

On a recent routine inspection in the Town of Ludlow, a small new dam was discovered on a small stream, apparently known as Lawrence Brook, in the vicinity of Chapin Street at a point approximately 4,000 feet westerly of Miller Street. The dam is now under construction and forms a small pond containing about 100,00 gallons of water. The dam is being build just upstream from the culvert carrying the brook under Chapin Street. The dam is approximately semi-circular in shape, having a radius of about 4 feet and is only 18 inches in height. The drainage area above the dam has been computed to be approximately 1.02 square miles. Consequently, this dam, because of the drainage area of the brook upstream, comes under the jurisdiction of the County.

Improper construction of the dam could result in a partial or complete blocking of the Chapin Street culvert, with the result that the road might be washed out.

The dam and pond are owned by Mr. Homer Gauthier, whose address is 160 Chapin Street, Ludlow, Mass. The undersigned talked with Mr. Gauthier and instructed him to prepare a plan and specifications of his dam, and that completion of its construction should be delayed until he obtains proper authority for its construction. Mr. Gauthier will send to your Board the necessary plan and specifications together with the filing fee and a petition requesting permission to complete the dam.

While in the vicinity of the undersigned followed the brook course upstream and discovered a fairly large pond containing about 6 acres of water, and a dam approximately 56 feet in length and 5 feet in height. The pond and dam are owned by Mrs. Stephania Gauthier whose address is 172 Chapin Street, Ludlow, Mass. Mrs. Gauthier stated that the pond was generally known as Lawrence Pond and that the pond and dam were in existence some ten years ago when she purchased the property from a Mr. Miller of White Plains, New York.

*Dam owned by  
Homer Gauthier*

The drainage area of the pond is approximately one square mile, and, since the pond contains over 1,000,000 gallons of water, the dam comes under County jurisdiction. The dam is of earth and gravel fill construction, has some timber work on its upstream face while the downstream face is of a vertical dry wall, large cobble stone construction. On the date of inspection water was flowing over the top of the dam as well as through the stone fill of the dam. Because of the high water condition, it was difficult to determine the quantity of leakage through the dam. It would appear that in normal times leakage through the dam carries off the excess water, and that only during periods of high runoff does any water flow over the top of the structure.

Though the dam has been in existence for many years and no doubt, water has been flowing through the dry stone construction, it would be advisable that a proper spillway be installed and that leakage through the dam be stopped.

The undersigned plans to reinspect the dam when the runoff decreases sufficiently to properly investigate the actual leakage; however, it would be advisable to notify the owner that the dam does come under County jurisdiction and that alterations and repairs to the spillway section will probably be required during this year, and that the required repairs and alterations must be made in such a way as to satisfy requirements of the County.

Very truly yours,

By G. H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

April 18, 1951

Mrs. Stephania Gauthier  
172 Chapin Street  
Ludlow, Mass.  
(P.O. North Wilbraham, Mass.)

Dear Madam:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located at the rear of your property at 172 Chapin Street in Ludlow, has been recently inspected by our Engineer, and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The drainage area of the pond is approximately one square mile, and, since the pond contains over 1,000,000 gallons of water, the dam comes under County jurisdiction. The dam is of earth and gravel fill construction, has some timber work on its upstream face while the downstream face is of a vertical dry wall, large cobble stone construction. On the date of inspection water was flowing over the top of the dam as well as through the stone fill of the dam. Because of the high water condition it was difficult to determine the quantity of leakage through the dam. It would appear that in normal times leakage through the dam carries off the excess water, and that only during periods of high runoff does any water flow over the top of the structure.

Though the dam has been in existence for many years and, no doubt, water has been flowing through the dry stone construction, it would be advisable that a proper spillway be installed and that leakage through the dam be stopped."

The proper procedure for processing plans and specifications in regard to the required alterations and repairs to the dam is to prepare plans and specifications of the recommended and proposed work and to file the same at this office together with a petition requesting permission to make the repairs to the dam. The fee for filing is \$ 5.00.

- 2 -

Mrs. Stephania Gauthier  
Ludlow, Mass.

4/18/51

Your attention is called to the fact that failure of your dam would result in damage to property, both public and private, between the site of your dam and the Chicopee River. Since your dam comes under County jurisdiction, the necessary alterations and repairs to the dam must be approved through this office.

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Western Massachusetts Electric Dam fka Ludlow Manufacturing Associates Dam



1894 Ludlow

Dam located on Chicopee River between Ludlow and Indian Orchard just upstream from the West Street Bridge over the Chicopee River. See also: County Highways (Ludlow) - "Ludlow Manufacturing Company Dam..." - ch02081 & ch02099 & ch11025..

Abutters                      Western Massachusetts Electric Company

Bridges	West Street Bridge
---------	--------------------

City/Town                      Ludlow

Dam	Western Massachusetts Electric Dam
-----	------------------------------------

Dam                              Ludlow Manufacturing Associates Dam

Streets	Alden Street
---------	--------------

Water                            Chicopee River

LOCATION and DESCRIPTION

of

LANDS, WATER RIGHTS, RIGHTS OF WAY and  
EASEMENTS

TAKEN BY

LUDLOW MANUFACTURING COMPANY

1894

LOCATION and DESCRIPTION.  
of

LANDS, WATER RIGHTS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND EASEMENTS

TAKEN BY THE

LUBLOW MANUFACTURING COMPANY.



Edward Whitney, President.

Charles W. Hubbard, Treasurer.

Crammire A. Wallace, Selling Agent.

Office of the Ludlow Manufacturing Co.

133 Essex Street.

Boston, Feb. 14, 1894.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Ludlow Manufacturing Company will be held at the office of the Company, 133 Essex Street, Boston, at eleven o'clock A.M., on Friday Feb. 23rd, 1894, for the purpose of taking lands, rights and privileges as authorized by the statutes of Massachusetts, Chapter 200 of the Acts of 1839; or ratifying any taking under such statutes, and any other matters connected therewith.

Copy of above notice was sent to all stockholders.

C. V. Wallace  
Clerk

C. V. Wallace  
Clerk

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Ludlow Manufacturing Company held at Boston Massachusetts pursuant to the foregoing call on the 23rd day of February A.D. 1894 it was voted;-

That the taking on behalf of said Corporation and under the authority of Chapter 200 of the Acts of the General Court of Massachusetts for the year 1889, of the land, water rights, rights of way and other easements below described or any part thereof for the purposes below set forth, is hereby ratified, and said Corporation hereby votes to take said land, water rights, rights of way and other easements under authority of said Act and for the purposes below set forth, to wit;,  
(see description attached)

Voted; that the Treasurer of said Corporation be hereby authorized and directed to file and cause to be recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Hampden County a description of the land, water rights, rights of way and other easements taken by said Corporation sufficiently accurate for identification with a description of the purposes for which the same were taken.

Allen  
Erasmus N. Wallace  
Clerk.



The following is a description of the location and boundaries of lands water rights, rights of way, and other easements taken by authority of the Legislature of Massachusetts, Chapter 200 of the Acts of the year 1839, by the Ludlow Manufacturing Company for supplying itself and the inhabitants and occupants of the Town of Ludlow, within one mile of the Chicopee River, with water for the extinguishment of fires and for domestic and other purposes, including herein all the purposes authorized by the provisions of said Chapter 200,- said land and rights of way so taken all lying within the limits of said town of Ludlow.

This description is filed and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Hampden County, Massachusetts in compliance with the provisions of said Chapter 200.

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

*S. Wallace*  
*Pres.*



The following described right of way and user is taken for the purpose of laying, constructing and maintaining at all times a line of water mains, pipes and other works and structures for the purposes above set forth and the right is taken at all times to enter upon and pass over said right of way for the purpose of laying, constructing and maintaining a line of water pipes, mains and other works and also for the purpose of transporting any materials for standpipes or for such other structures as it may from time to time be necessary to erect, construct, complete or maintain for such water supply: also for the purpose of placing and maintaining of poles or pipes for holding wires, and of placing wires upon in or over said premises.

Beginning at stone bound on land now or formerly of John O'Neil: thence southerly about fourteen degrees ( $14^{\circ}$ ) East about five hundred two and sixty four hundredths (502.64) feet to a stone bound: thence by the arc of a circle, curving toward the west, tangent to the last described line and having a radius of two thousand eight hundred sixty four and seventy nine hundredths (2864.79) feet about three hundred ninety six (396) feet to land now or formerly of James E. Haviland: thence by same curve about one hundred sixty two and eighty nine hundredths (162.89) feet to a stone bound: thence southerly tangent to last described curve, about one thousand forty eight and seventy three hundredths (1048.73) to a stone bound: thence by the arc of a circle curving toward the East, tangent to the last described line and having



a radius of two thousand eight hundred sixty four and seventy nine hundredths (2864.79) feet about four hundred ninety one and sixty seven hundredths (491.67) feet to a stone bound: thence southerly tangent to last described curve, about seven hundred nine and eleven hundredths (709.11) feet to a stone bound: thence southwesterly at an angle of about one hundred twenty six degrees, fifty four minutes and forty seconds ( $126^{\circ}54'-40''$ ) measured on the westerly side of the line described, about one hundred thirteen and five tenths (113.50) feet to land now or formerly of F.F. McLean: thence in the same direction about one thousand eighty three (1083) feet to land now or formerly of Lucy Pease: thence in the same direction about one hundred twenty eight (128) feet to lands now or formerly of the Ludlow Manufacturing Company: thence in the same direction about twenty nine and ninety five hundredths (29.95) feet to a stone bound at the angle in a private way known as Hubbard street.

Said right of way and user to be twelve (12) feet in width, six (6) feet on each side of the line described.

Also the right of way for laying and maintaining said pipe line pipes and wires under and across the tracks and property of the Athol Branch of the Boston and Albany Railroad near the intersection of East and Hubbard streets as shown on accompanying plan.

The various tracts of land over and in which said right of way and



user is taken are supposed to belong to the persons designated upon said plan and in the foregoing description, to wit, to John O'Neil James B. Haviland, F.F. McLean, Lucy Pease all of said Ludlow and the Boston and Albany Railroad Company.

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

L. Wallace  
Clerk.

The following described lot of land is taken for the construction and maintenance at all times of a stand-pipe and other structures and works for the storage, conduct and supply of water, and is the same designated as "A" on the plan filed herewith and is supposed to belong to James E. Haviland of said Ludlow:-

Beginning at the southeasterly corner at a stone bound: thence westerly by the northerly line of land belonging now or formerly to F.F. McLean about one hundred fifty (150) feet to a stone bound: thence northerly at an angle of ninety degrees (90°) to last described line about one hundred fifty (150) feet to a stone bound: thence easterly at an angle of ninety degrees (90°) to last described line and parallel to first described line, to land belonging now or formerly to F. F. McLean at a stone bound: thence southerly by the westerly line of land belonging now or formerly to said McLean to stone bound at place of beginning. Containing about one half acre. (This parcel of land includes a portion of the pipe line as described above and as shown on accompanying plan.)

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

*F. H. Hall*  
Clerk



The following described lot of land (also designated as Lot "B" on said plan) is taken for the purpose of the construction of a pumping station and other structures and works for the supplying of water as provided in said Chapter 200 and is supposed to belong to John O'Neil of said Ludlow. Beginning at the northwesterly corner at a stone bound in the dividing line between land of said O'Neil and land belonging to the Town of Ludlow: thence southerly about fourteen degrees ( $14^{\circ}$ ) East and parallel to the first described portion of pipe line about three hundred thirty and ninety-three hundredths (330.93) feet to a stone bound: thence northeasterly at an angle of ninety degrees ( $90^{\circ}$ ) to the last described line about fifty five (55) feet to a stone bound at which the description of the pipe line begins: thence in the same direction to Chapin Pond. Beginning again at the northwesterly corner at the stone bound: thence at an angle of seventy degrees, sixteen minutes and ten seconds ( $70^{\circ}-16'-10''$ ) with the first described line and by land belonging now or formerly to the Town of Ludlow about eighty five and twenty six hundredths (85.26) feet to a stone bound: thence in the same direction to Chapin Pond: thence southerly by Chapin Pond to the end of the second described line. Containing about one half acre.

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

*Fuller Bank*



The following described right of way is taken for the purpose of access to and from the other lands and rights of way above taken, and for the passing thereupon and thereover with teams, on foot or otherwise, at all times, and for the purpose of transporting materials for the construction of such structures or works as may be at any time needed for the purposes set forth in said Chapter 200: ~~also for setting poles thereon and stringing wires thereover.~~

The land over which said right of way &c is taken is supposed to be owned by said John O'Neil.

Beginning on the easterly side of road leading from Ludlow Mills to Ludlow and at the southerly line of land belonging to the Town of Ludlow at a stone bound: thence easterly by land belonging now or formerly to the town of Ludlow about fifty and fifty seven hundredths (50.57) feet to a stone bound at the northwesterly corner of land this day taken by the Ludlow Manufacturing Company and marked "E" on accompanying plan.

Said right of way to be twelve (12) feet in width and on the southerly side of the line described.

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

*W. H. Hallard*  
*Clerk*



Said Ludlow Manufacturing Company has also taken the waters of Chapin's Pond and Woods' Pond, both in said town of Ludlow. The purpose for which such waters are taken is the supplying of itself and the inhabitants and occupants of the town of Ludlow, within one mile from the Chicopee River, with water for the extinguishment of fires and for domestic and other purposes, including all the purposes for which said corporation is authorized to take said waters under the provisions of said Chapter 200.

The above description was read to the stockholders at their meeting Feb. 23rd, 1894.

Charles W. Hubbard  
Read  
Ludlow Manufg Co.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a description of the location and boundaries of certain lands and rights of way taken by the Ludlow Manufacturing Company under the provisions of Chapter 200 of the Acts of the year 1889 , of the Legislature of Massachusetts, for the purposes named in said Chapter and for the purposes herein above stated.

Dated this 27th. day of February, 1894.

Charles W. Hubbard  
Pres  
Ludlow Manf Co

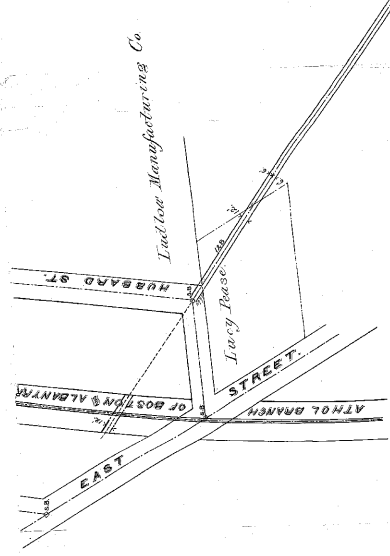
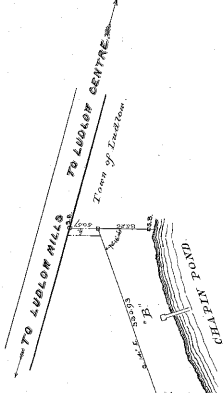


HAMPDEN COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS.

MAR 2 1894

Received \_\_\_\_\_ H. \_\_\_\_\_ M. \_\_\_\_\_

*Attest Joseph H. Miller Registrar*



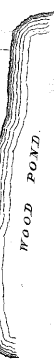
F. F. McLean.

James B. Harland.

F. F. McLean.

James B. Harland.

James B. Harland.



John O'Neil.

PROPOSED PIPE LINE  
OF  
WATER WORKS BELONGING TO LUDLOW MFG CO.  
LUDLOW, MASS. — JANUARY, 1894.  
Scale, 100 feet to the inch.



Oct. 28, 1959

Western Mass. Electric Co.  
General Office  
West Springfield, Mass.

Att: Engineering and Hydraulic Maintenance Depts.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located on the Chicopee River between Ludlow and Indian Orchard just upstream from the West Street Bridge over the Chicopee River has been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"Brush and vegetation growing from the dam, abutments and the canal spillway should be discouraged and the brush itself cut. Brush growth could cause damage to masonry and require unnecessary maintenance in the future. The dam itself is in good condition.

At the right abutment area, surface water runoff has washed out fill behind the new concrete wall. This is not a dangerous condition. However, the owners may wish to correct the erosion problem with proper surface water control."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Dec. 10, 1958

Western Mass. Electric Co.  
73 State Street  
Springfield, Mass.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 253, Section 45, et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition, and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your power dam located at Red Bridge on the Chicopee River has been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"The dike at Alden Street was found to be in satisfactory condition.

Brush and trees on the main dam embankment should be cut down.  
A gully in the earth of the embankment at the left spillway abutment wall on the downstream face of the embankment should be repaired."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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# WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY

ADDRESS REPLY TO

P.O. Box #10  
West Springfield, Mass.

January 6, 1960


The Board of County Commissioners  
County of Hampden  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of October 28, 1959 giving your Engineer's Report on our Indian Orchard Dam located on the Chicopee River upstream from the West Street bridge.

The recommended maintenance work was on our schedule and has been completed.

Yours truly,

  
C. H. Mitchell  
Hydraulic & Structural Engineer

CHG/kb

copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell,  
County Hydraulic Engineer, on Jan. 12, 1960.



# WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY

ADDRESS REPLY TO

174 Brush Hill Ave.  
West Springfield, Mass.

December 1, 1960

Office of the County Commissioners  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Attention: Mr. William F. Stapleton, Chairman

Gentlemen:

In answer to your letter of November 30, 1960 in regard to the inspection of our dam located on the Chicopee River, upstream of Chicopee center, we would like to inform you that all vegetation growing from the abutment masonry joints has been treated with chemicals.

The report to this office is that all vegetation has definitely been killed and that nature will remove the growth.

Very truly yours,



Leon H. Perron  
Assistant Real Estate  
and Right of Way Agent

LHP:mn

copy of this letter mailed to Mr. George H. McDonnell on  
December 8, 1960.

# WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC COMPANY

ADDRESS REPLY TO

174 Brush Hill Ave.  
West Springfield, Mass.

December 14, 1960

Office of the County Commissioners  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Attention: Mr. William F. Stapleton, Chairman

Gentlemen:

In answer to your letter of November 30, 1960 in regard to the inspection of our dam across the Chicopee River between Ludlow and Indian Orchard, just upstream from West Street Bridge, we would like to inform you that all vegetation growing from the abutment masonry joints and the dam proper has been treated with chemicals this past summer, and it is the intent of our Operating Department to cut away the remaining brush as soon as conditions permit.

Very truly yours,



Leon H. Perron  
Assistant Real Estate  
and Right of Way Agent

LHP:mn

(copy of this letter sent to George H. McDonnell, )  
(County Hydraulic Engineer, on December 16, 1960. )

Nov. 30, 1960

Western Mass. Electric Co.,  
General Office  
West Springfield, Mass.

Att: Engineering and Hydraulic Maintenance Depts.

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 253, Section 45, et. seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located on the Chicopee River between Ludlow and Indian Orchard, just upstream from the West Street Bridge over the Chicopee River, has been recently inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him.

"The abutments and the dam itself were found to be in satisfactory condition. However, brush was noted to be growing from the stone masonry of the dam and from the left abutment, as well as from the canal spillway. This brush growth should be discouraged and removed. Continuation of brush growth from the joints of the masonry can eventually result in damage to the stone masonry and the need for more expensive maintenance at some later date.

At the right abutment, earth has been placed behind the new concrete wall and the erosion problem noted in the annual inspection report of 1959 has been corrected."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Very truly yours

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Ludlow School Department Dam aka Ludlow Park Park Department Dam



o Ludlow

Also see: Dam Report Section - Ludlow.

Abutters	Western Massachusetts Electric Company
City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Ludlow Park Department Dam
Dam	Ludlow School Department Dam

LUDLOW  
D12014

LUDLOW PARK DEPARTMENT DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Burelle Dam



1926 Ludlow

Located on Higher Brook

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Burelle Dam
Name	Burelle, M
Water	Higher Brook

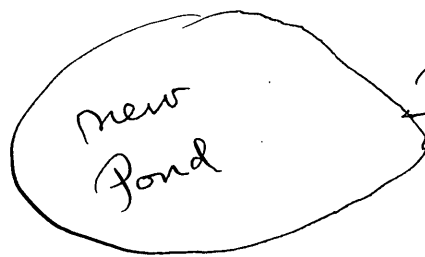
M. Burrell,  
Sudlow, Mass.

you are notified that your  
dam, located on Higher Brook so called in the  
Town of Sudlow, etc.

" The spillway is in the center of the  
structure and has a sloped wood plank apron.  
The retaining walls of the spillway are formed of  
planking to which the earth is backed up. This  
planking has rotted out considerably, and the embankment  
behind it has been washed out.

The dam seems to be an abandoned structure  
and not in use for some time. It is in very poor  
condition and badly in need of repairs. It is,  
therefore, recommended that the structure be repaired  
or the pond, which covers an area of five or six  
acres, be drawn down by lowering the spillway  
or making an opening through the dam  
sufficient to make a free waterway for the  
flow of the brook. "

Will this  
trench  
drain  
off the  
water from  
brook



Trench

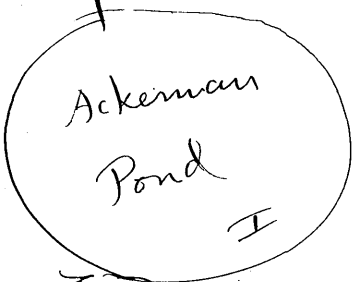
Swamp  
fed  
by  
brook

Nakushians Land -  
12 acres

Belcherstown Road East →

and cause  
my ponds to  
go dry or  
run low?

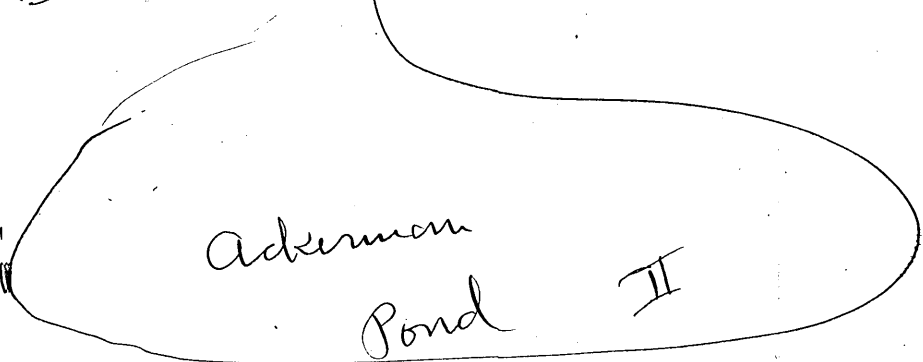
In the summer  
ponds get  
low anyway.



Dam

Falls

Dam



as I  
understand  
it. Hope  
Mr. Tighe  
can come  
out + see  
things.



March 10, 1926

Mr. M. Burelle,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Higher Brook, so-called, in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"The spillway is in the center of the structure and has a sloped wood plank apron. The retaining walls of the spillway are formed of planking to which the earth is backed up. This planking has rotted out considerably, and the embankment behind it has been washed out.

The dam seems to be an abandoned structure and not in use for some time. It is in very poor condition and badly in need of repairs. It is, therefore, recommended that the structure be repaired or the pond, which covers an area of five or six acres, be drawn down by lowering the spillway or making an opening through the dam sufficient to make a free waterway for the flow of the brook."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

Nakashian Dam



1946 Ludlow

Also see: Ackerman Dam - located north of Belchertown Road and Ackerman Dam.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Nakashian Dam
Dam	Ackerman Dam
Name	Nakashian, Merian
Streets	Belchertown Road

From Mrs. Josephine Ackerman  
Belchertown Road  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

December 8, 1946

County Commissioners Office  
Superior Court House Building  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Dear Sirs:                      New Pond above us endangering water  
supply to my ponds

Dr. Merian Nakashian, a resident of Ludlow, has had dug a large hole of considerable size just north of us, north of Belchertown Road in his field. He plans to have a pond there and his wife says that it will be fed by springs in this hole.

However, he has also dug a large trench right up to a little ways from the brook to a swampy place which is fed by the brook. Now this is what I want to know. Will you please have your good Inspector Mr. Tighe come out here and see if this trench which is so near to the brook will swallow up all of the supply of water from the brook and thus endangering the supply of water to my ponds.

In the summer time this brook runs very low and my ponds go down sometimes four feet. I know this brook cannot maintain a pond above me. I bought ponds and paid for ponds, and I do wish you would see that I am protected from this threat.

My husband was a totally disabled world war No. 1 veteran. and my three sons went into service during this new world war II, I am a widow. I do not have money to fight anything in courts, hence my appeal to you.

If he Dr. Nakashian, who is really a fine man, we all like him, and a good doctor, if he can have the pond without taking our supply, well and good. There are three homes depending upon the water of this brook, Mr. Boyce family, and my home and the little cottage nearby us. we all have electric pumps. I could not get water from any other source but our ponds.

Thanking you so very much for your prompt attention. I have been assured that if there is anything wrong, one word from your office would put a stop to the entire thing. However, I am grateful for your help.

Very sincerely yours,

*Mrs. Josephine  
Ackerman*

December 11, 1946

Mrs. Josephine Ackerman,  
Belchertown Road,  
Ludlow, Mass.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of December 8, 1946  
relative to the new pond above you, has been received.

The County Commissioners have no  
jurisdiction over brooks or ponds unless a dam of cer-  
tain dimensions under the law, is built.

However, we will be glad to have our  
Engineer investigate it and make a report.

Very truly yours,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman.

TJC/N

MEMBER  
AM. SOC. C. E.  
INST. C. E. GREAT BRITAIN  
ENG. INST. OF CANADA

## JAMES L. TIGHE

CONSULTING ENGINEER  
CALEDONIAN BUILDING, 189 HIGH STREET

HOLYOKE, MASS.

TELEPHONE 5525

MEMBER AM. INST. OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC.

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
ANALYSIS OF WATER

WATER POWER INVESTIGATIONS  
AND DEVELOPMENT  
DAMS AND POWER INSTALLATIONS  
ESTIMATES AND APPRAISALS

MEMBER  
BOSTON SOC. C. E.  
ENG. SOC. WEST. MASS.  
AM. & N. E. W. W. ASSOC'S

December 27, 1946

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Thomas J. Costello, Chairman

Dear Sir:

I have investigated the proposition of the forming of a fish pond about three-quarters of an acre in area by Dr. Nakashian, at a point on his property along one of the tributaries of Higher Brook in Ludlow and up stream some distance from the Mill Pond owned by Mrs. Joseph Ackerman.

The proposed fish pond is not to be formed by a dam but by an excavation of the natural earth to a depth of around  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The center of the pond will be about 250 feet from the brook, from which it will be fed with water by a pipe connection. The water in the pond, therefore, will never rise above the height of the water in the brook.

According to Dr. Nakashian, whom I talked with, the fish pond is a federal project and will be under the control of the federal government.

I called also on Mrs. Ackerman and explained to her that, since, the location of the pond was on the watershed of the brook, there should be no loss of water from the brook except, caused by the evaporation from the surface of the pond, and which would occur if the pond was formed by a dam across the brook, if such were built.

As matter of fact, since there is no dam to be constructed, the question seems to be outside the jurisdiction of the county.

Respectfully submitted,

*James L. Tighe*

*Nakashian Dam  
Ludlow*

Reynolds Dam



o Ludlow

Also see: Dam Report Section - Ludlow.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Reynolds Dam
Name	Reynolds

LUDLOW  
D12017

REYNOLDS DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Springfield Water Works Dam aka Cherry Valley Dam



o Ludlow

Also see: Dam Report Section - Ludlow. See also: County Highways (Ludlow) - "Ludlow Reservoir Water Supply repairs to Cherry Valley Dam after flood of 1938..." - ch11029. See also: County Highways (Springfield) "Cherry Valley Dam..." - ch05083. See also: County Roads Plan #4 (1959) "Repair Cherry Valley Dam after flood of 1958" (record book 26 page 109).

Abutters                      Springfield City Water Works

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Springfield Water Works Dam



LUDLOW  
D12018

SPRINGFIELD WATER WORKS DAM

NO IMAGE ON FILE FOR THIS RECORD

(INFORMATION EXISTS ONLY ON A FILE CARD FROM THE  
OFFICE OF THE FORMER HAMPDEN COUNTY ENGINEER.)

Veterans Park Dam



1947 Ludlow

Located on Higher Brook

Abutters	Ludlow High School
Abutters	Ludlow Town Parks
Abutters	Ludlow Fish & Game Club
City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Veterans Park Dam
Water	Higher Brook

COPY

December 5, 1947

Town of Ludlow  
Park Department  
Town Hall  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that the Veterans Park dam located on Higher Brook in the Town of Ludlow has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In a recent inspection made of the Veterans Park dam located on Higher Brook in the Town of Ludlow and owned by the Town of Ludlow Park Department, there was found a concentrated leak along the north side of the concrete spillway culvert. An increase in this leakage, with the resulting high velocity of water, may cause washing out of the structure. The repairs should be made to seal up the leak at this time."

Any further information concerning this matter which you may desire will be furnished by this office upon request.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By Charles W. Bray

Chairman

William Dwight

Thomas F. Sullivan

August 30, 1948

Town of Ludlow  
Park Commissioners

Subject: Repairs to Veterans' Park Dam

EXAMINATION: This structure is leaking badly, the leak being visible only on the down stream face of the dam, washing out the earth embankment to considerable extent. Water stream appears to be about the quantity that would be carried off through a 4" pipe under a 3' head. I find no evidence of the leaking area on the up-stream face of the embankment.

RECOMMENDATION: The leak should be followed through to the core wall by excavating from the down-stream face and determining its origin from this opening. This method should show whether the leak is under, around the end, or through a break in the core. After locating the infiltration point on the upstream face, a mat of straw base material should be placed and entirely covered with sandy gravel to form a solid bottom. At the time of this work it is advisable to check the condition of the plank spillway and to replace any weak timbers. The entire down-stream face should be backfilled and the riprap replaced at the spillway sides. The guard rail should also be rebuilt on both sides of the roadway across the dam.

*P. L. Wood*  
PAUL WOOD

*Approved*

*Donald Vermette* (Vermette)  
*Henry J. Pellham*  
*Edw. A. Marini*  
Park Commissioners

September 31, 1948

Park Board  
Town of Ludlow, Mass.

Attention: Donald J. Vermetti, Secretary  
Holyoke Street  
Ludlow, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 253, Section 45 et seq. of the General Laws, Tercentenary Edition, relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are hereby advised that your dam located at Veterans Park on Higher Brook in the Town of Ludlow has been inspected by our Engineer and your attention is called to the following conditions noted and recommendations made by him:

"In a recent inspection made of the Veterans Park dam located on Higher Brook in the Town of Ludlow and owned by the Park Board of the Town of Ludlow, there was found a concentrated leak along the north side of the concrete spillway culvert. The water was traveling at a comparative high velocity through the leak and washing out the structure. Repairs should be made to seal up this leak at once. These repairs were ordered in 1947 and no effort has been made to correct conditions to date."

In view of the highly dangerous condition of the dam as revealed by this report, you are hereby ordered to make such alterations or repairs as recommended in said report. If you refuse or neglect to do so, the County Commissioners will take such further action as is required by law.

September 1, 1948

Park Board  
Town of Ludlow, Mass. - 2

The Commission requests that we be advised not later than September 15, 1948 as to what action is proposed to be taken by you in compliance herewith.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Chairman

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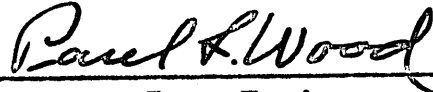
September 21, 1948

Hampden County Commissioners  
Court House  
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sirs:

In reply to your letter dated Sept. 1, 1948, I enclose herewith recommendation of the proposed repairs to the Veterans' Park Dam which is approved by the Ludlow Park Commissioners.

Very truly yours,

  
Town Engineer

JAMES L. TIGHE  
PHILIP E. BOND  
  
TELEPHONE  
HOLYOKE 5525

**TIGHE & BOND**  
**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**  
189 HIGH STREET  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

WATER SUPPLY  
SEWERAGE  
SEWAGE DISPOSAL  
WATER POWER  
DAMS

December 8, 1948

The Hon. The Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Charles W. Bray, Chairman

Gentlemen:

The Park Board of the Town of Ludlow,  
Massachusetts, has repaired the Veterans' Park  
Dam on Higher Brook in the Town of Ludlow in  
compliance with your letter dated ~~August 27, 1948.~~

*Sept. 1, 1948*

Very truly yours,

TIGHE & BOND

By

*Philip E. Bond*



Oct. 3, 1956

Town of Ludlow  
Park Department  
Town Office  
Ludlow, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Your dam located off of Chapin Street has recently been inspected by our engineer in accordance with Chapter 253 of the General Laws, and he reports to us as follows:-

During the flood of August, 1955, a portion of the earth embankment forming the dam and the road was washed out. The depth of the washout was shallow. This washout has been partly repaired and the pond is at normal water level. Boulders in the spillway conduit and particularly in the brook at the discharge end of the spillway conduit partially block this conduit and reduce the carrying capacity of the structure.

The grade of the earth embankment and roadway should be built to the proper elevation in the section of the washout. Also, the spillway conduit should be cleaned of all boulders and any debris that tends to reduce the carrying capacity of this overflow conduit.

Any further information that you require on this matter will be furnished to you upon request.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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GHM/f

CD Ludlow  
Feb. 24, 1961

Nunes Jewelry Co.  
329 East Street  
Ludlow, Mass.

Att: Mr. Nunes

Gentlemen:

In regard to my conference with you on Thursday, February 23, pertaining to the water level of the pond on the property of the Ludlow Fish & Game Club, it is evident that the level of your pond is directly related to the level of the pond at Veteran's Park, now the site of the new Ludlow High School. I have been able to locate a plan showing the proposed site development for the school and on the plan I note that whereas the pond in the past has been at elevation 233, a new pond level will be established at elevation 232 upon the termination of alterations and construction of the High School. Thus, if the pond at the school site is lowered a foot on a permanent basis, you can expect that your pond too will be a foot below the level maintained during the past.

I have noted on the site development plan that certain changes are apparently to be made at the box culvert spillway thru the dam and have reported this matter to the County for official confirmation and investigation. No doubt the County Commissioners will check with the Town of Ludlow to determine just exactly what is to be done at the dam. When this information is available I can advise you further on any steps you should take in connection with maintaining the water level of the pond at your Fish & Game Club property.

In the meantime, it is recommended that you check your deeds and your water rights in the stream, to see whether or not the Owner of the dam, whomever he may be, may be required by previous agreement to provide a given and predetermined water level on your property.

You will hear from me further in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

Tighe & Bond, Inc.

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George H. McDonnell  
Chief Engineer

GHM/mb

CD Ludlow  
Feb. 24, 1961

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication sent to Mr. Nunes of the Ludlow Fish & Game Club in connection with his telephone request for information pertaining to the water level in Higher Brook. As the result of a telephone call received from Mr. Nunes, I made an inspection of the site at the Ludlow Fish & Game Club on Thursday, February 23, and as a result of this inspection noted changes being made at the Veteran's Park Dam adjacent to the High School construction.

As a result, I have submitted another communication to your Board in connection with the matter at hand of a major change to the spillway at the dam, as shown upon a site development plan for the new High School.

Very truly yours,

---

George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

Enc.

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

# **TTCHE & BOND**

**CONSULTING ENGINEERS**

CIVIL, SANITARY AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
INVESTIGATIONS, REPORTS, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS  
SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991  
CD Ludlow  
Feb. 24, 1961


The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a copy of a communication sent to Mr. Nunes of the Ludlow Fish & Game Club in connection with his telephone request for information pertaining to the water level in Higher Brook. As the result of a telephone call received from Mr. Nunes, I made an inspection of the site at the Ludlow Fish & Game Club on Thursday, February 23, and as a result of this inspection noted changes being made at the Veteran's Park Dam adjacent to the High School construction.

As a result, I have submitted another communication to your Board in connection with the matter at hand of a major change to the spillway at the dam, as shown upon a site development plan for the new High School.

Very truly yours,

  
George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/mb

Enc.

GEORGE H. McDONNELL  
PHILIP W. SHERIDAN  
EDWARD J. BAYON

# **TIGHE & BOND**

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BOWERS AND PEQUOT STREETS  
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
TEL. JEFFERSON 3-3991

CD Ludlow  
March 14, 1961

The Hon. the Board of County Commissioners  
Hampden County Court House  
37 Elm Street  
Springfield, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to my previous report to your Board pertaining to the planned changes at Veteran's Park Dam in Ludlow, as the result of the new Ludlow High School now under construction.

On Wednesday, March 8, 1961, while in Boston for the latter half of the week, I received a phone call from a Mr. Forbush of Munson & Mallis of Springfield regarding the pond and dam. As per the request of Mr. Forbush I called him on Monday morning, March 13, 1961 and discussed the work at this dam. Mr. Forbush pointed out that as planned, the level of the pond will be dropped 1 ft. below the level of past years, thru the removal of stop-logs in the existing concrete spillway structure. Also, the existing spillway structure is to be extended in length by adding thereto a 4 ft. diameter corrugated iron pipe culvert.

I pointed out to Mr. Forbush that for some time and particularly as of last year, a recommendation had been made to the Town of Ludlow that the spillway at this dam was not of adequate size to handle runoff from the drainage area as now existing and, as will exist in future years, with development and growth of the area in general. I also pointed out to Mr. Forbush that the construction of an access road, the placing of embankment fill and the building of improvements at the dam in connection with the extension of the spillway conduit with a 4 ft. culvert was only spending money for improvements that would certainly be damaged in the not too distant future by high flood flows that will exceed the capacity of the planned 4 ft. corrugated iron pipe.

In past years, when the capacity of the concrete conduit was exceeded by stream flow, little damage ever occurred since the

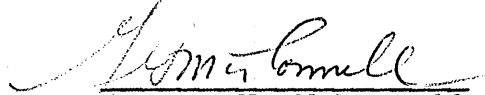
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2.  
CD Ludlow  
March 14, 1961

dam itself is relatively low in height and wide in thickness. Washouts have taken place on the dam embankment but these did not require much of an expenditure to repair and damage from flood flows amounted to little or nothing. However, if good roadway construction and a high type of grading and landscaping is to be done in the area, all of this could be damaged by flood flows unless proper precautions are taken to be certain that the spillway can safely pass flood flows.

Mr. Forbush will pass on my advice and the results of our telephone discussions to the School Committee. When I hear anything further in connection with their decision regarding the spillway at this dam, I will inform your Board of their action.

Very truly yours



George H. McDonnell  
County Hydraulic Engineer

GHM/cmb

Radner Dam



1926 Ludlow

Located on Higher Brook.

City/Town	Ludlow
Dam	Radner Dam
Name	Radner, Samuel
Water	Higher Brook

Springfield, Mass.

2

you are notified that your dam, located on Higher Brook so called in the Town of Sudlow, etc.

"The dam is in fair condition.

Nevertheless, it is recommended that its top be raised another foot and a half, thus making it three feet above the crest of the spillway in order to increase its factor of safety against water tipping it in time of flood flow.

It is also recommended that the trees growing in and at the toe of the structure be cut down."

Now, therefore, etc.



March 10, 1926

Mr. Samuel Radner,  
216 North Main St.,  
Springfield, Mass.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of Section 45 of Chapter 253 of the General Laws as amended by Chapter 334 of the Acts of 1923 and as further amended by Chapter 178 of the Acts of 1924 relative to the inspection, condition and safety of the dams of Hampden County, you are notified that your dam, located on Higher Brook, so-called, in the Town of Ludlow, has been inspected by our engineer and your attention is called to the following recommendations made by him;

"The dam is in fair condition. Nevertheless, it is recommended that its top be raised another foot and a half, thus making it three feet above the crest of the spillway in order to increase its factor of safety against water topping it in time of flood flow.

It is also recommended that the trees growing in and at the toe of the structure be cut down."

Now, therefore, in accordance with Section 46 of said Chapter 253, it is ordered that the above recommendations be complied with in a reasonable time.

Yours very truly,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman



**End of Book D12 ~ Dams ~ Town of Ludlow**